



## You Must Be Born Again

Religion isn't enough...

John 3:1-15

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church  
05.01.16

**BIG idea:** Just as you needed physical birth for earth, you need spiritual birth for heaven.

### John 3:1-8 ESV

1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

### The Need for New Birth

#### The Nature of New Birth

It's being born again.

It's mysterious, like the wind.

It produces a new nature.

#### Application:

You've been bitten.

Have you been born again?

For Next Sunday: Read John 3:16-21

### LifeGroup Study Guide

#### You Must Be Born Again

##### John 3:1-15

Read John 3:1-15

Being born into the right family was part of the core message of the Judaism that Nicodemus and the Pharisees taught. Being born as a descendant of Abraham was paramount. Why did Nicodemus have such a hard time believing the words of Jesus?

How do cultural values sometimes keep people from understanding and accepting the message of Jesus?

What does it mean to be born again? 3:3

What does it mean to be born of water and the Spirit? 3:5-7

In 3:10-14 John records the first of many passages that speak of a new knowledge, which is a new sort of knowing. What do we learn from Jesus about this new sort of knowing?

John 3:14 points back to Numbers 21, especially 21:5-8.

What is Jesus compared to in the story?

How are sin and the serpents' venoms similar?

How is the crucifixion of Jesus like putting a snake on a pole?

How is looking at the bronze snake and believing in Jesus similar?

What does God promise to those who believe in the Son of Man?

This story reveals how Jesus shared the Gospel with an individual. What are the key points of the Gospel Message? (cf 1 Cor 15:1-5)

What have you found to be the best way to share the Gospel?

Share three names of people you know that need to be born again and pray with someone in your LifeGroup for those people. Ask God for an opportunity to share the Gospel this week and report to your LifeGroup next week.