

Nicodemus: An Encounter with Jesus

March 24, 2019

1. Jesus has a **CIVIL** conversation.

*“Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council.”
John 3:1 (NIV)*

- Sanhedrin = **SUPREME COURT** of Israel.

“He came to Jesus at night and said, ‘Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.’” John 3:2 (NIV)

2. Jesus compassionately gets **STRAIGHT** to the **POINT**.

“In reply Jesus declared, ‘I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.’” John 3:3 (NIV)

- You CAN'T see (**SNIFF**) the kingdom . . .

“‘How can a man be born when he is old?’ Nicodemus asked. ‘Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!’ Jesus answered, ‘I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.’” John 3:4-6

3. Jesus says the **WIND BLOWS**.

“The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.’ ‘How can this be?’ Nicodemus asked.” John 3:8-9 (NIV)

- The Holy Spirit of God was drawing Nicodemus toward something that **CAN SAVE!**

4. Jesus used a familiar story to explain **SALVATION**.

“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.” John 3:14-15 (NIV)

- God has called us to **LIFT UP** Jesus!

5. Jesus **SIMPLIFIES** everything for Nicodemus.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:16 (NIV)