

## **Conversations with Jesus: "The Insider"** **John 3:1-21**

1. Have you ever been sincere about something, but found out later you were sincerely wrong? How did you initially feel? What did you do?
2. In this conversation with Christ, we meet a man named Nicodemus. He was not only a Pharisee, but a teacher (v. 10), and a member of the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was like the religious Supreme Court of that day. They were responsible for religious decisions and they were the ones who put Jesus on trial in Luke 22:66. Other than Nicodemus, what two Sanhedrin members are seen in a favorable light in the New Testament (see John 19:38 and Acts 5:34-39; 22:3)?

Why does Nicodemus rebuke the Pharisees for condemning Jesus in John 7:50-51?

What is their response to Nicodemus in John 7:52?

How does Nicodemus assist Joseph of Arimathea in Christ's burial (see John 19:38-40)?

3. In this first introduction to Nicodemus in John 3, why do you think Nicodemus went to Jesus? Why do you think he went at night? What does darkness represent in the book of John?
4. In John 20:3, what does Jesus say one has to do to see the kingdom of God?  
What are Nicodemus' two follow up questions to this statement in verse 4?
5. To be "born again" is to have a spiritual transformation which takes a person out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God. How does Colossians 1:13 describe this even further?
6. Although John 3:16 is perhaps the most famous verse in the Bible, people may forget that it was said by Jesus in the context of a conversation with Nicodemus. See if you can write out this verse by memory:

What a beautiful summary of the Gospel!

God's motivation toward people is love. God's love is not limited to a few or to one group of people but His gift is for the whole world. God's love was expressed in the giving of His most priceless gift—His own Son. On our side, we can't earn or repay God...so what are we to do with the Gift?

A person is saved, not by works (see Ephesians 2:8-9), but by believing and trusting in Christ alone for eternal life.

7. According to John 3:17, God's purpose for sending the Son was not to judge or condemn the world but to do what?
8. The instrumental means of salvation is believing in the finished work of Jesus on the Cross. Read Romans 8:1-2. Is a believer in Christ under condemnation from God? What has Christ done for us in regards to the law of sin and death?