

WE HAVE WATER

You must be born of the water and of the Spirit to enter into the Kingdom of God.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ John 3 can be considered a “go to” text for beginners’ Bible study. This passage of scripture discusses the new birth, water baptism, and the most important lesson in coming to Jesus: You must be born again.
- ❖ The text reveals a conversation between the Lord and Nicodemus, “a Pharisee and a ruler of the Jews” (v. 1).
- ❖ He is not a novice; he is a learned man. He addresses the Lord as Rabbi, acknowledging that He is a teacher – not just any teacher, but “a teacher sent from God” (v. 2).
- ❖ Nicodemus knew of the miracles the Lord was doing. The blind saw, the deaf heard, the lame walked, the dead were raised, and the kingdom was being preached (see Matthew 11:5). And still, today, the power of the gospel is here to deliver!
- ❖ The Lord wasted no time in getting to the point: Nicodemus, I know what you are asking. Here is my answer to you. “Unless a man is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God” (v. 3).
- ❖ Nicodemus responded, “How can a man be born when he is old...?” The Lord answered, “Unless one is born of the water and Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God” (verses 4-5).
- ❖ Matthew 6:33 says, “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” We must seek God’s kingdom.
- ❖ We meet together regularly in the house of God because we desire the Kingdom of God. Many of us have believed, obeyed the gospel, and are born of the water and of the Spirit. Life is good, amen!
- ❖ We are sealed (Ephesian 1:13). We are the apple of His eye (Psalm 17:8). And 2 Peter 2:9 affirms:
But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- ❖ John 4:14 tells us that “whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.” This is just a taste of the blessings of the believer.
- ❖ For those who have not yet gone through the watery grave of baptism and have not yet begun the walk of faith – for you, life may not be so good. But there is hope!
- ❖ “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

KEY SCRIPTURE: John 3:1-6

- ❖ There is hope! “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).
- ❖ There is hope, because the blessings and promises of God are available to all — we have only to believe and trust the Word of God.
- ❖ Galatians 5:19-21 tells us who *won't* be in heaven: Now the works of the flesh are...adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- ❖ And John 3:5 (see above) gives clear direction regarding the kingdom of God. Thank God, *we have the water; Jesus has – and gives – the Spirit!*
- ❖ Whether born of water and Spirit or yet to be born again, the Lord knows each of us and what our needs are. “Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy” (Ps. 33:8).
- ❖ He knows for us that which we cannot know. He hears for us what we cannot hear. He sees for us what we cannot see. He goes for us where we cannot go. And He is for us what we cannot be. He is our burden bearer.
- ❖ If you have not yet entered the Kingdom of God through water and Spirit, wait no longer – there is water!

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Discuss and explain your view: In John 3:3-5, does Jesus’ answer relate/connect to Nicodemus’ introduction (verses 1-2)? Or does it not?
2. Read Luke 19:10 and Matthew 11:28-30. a) What do these verses reveal about the heart of God toward humankind? b) What are the promises contained in these words of Jesus?
3. Read on a little further, through John 3:1-17. What statements are most compelling to you, and why?
4. If anyone in the group has not yet entered the kingdom of God, encourage them appropriately based on scripture, and give them the opportunity to respond. (We have water: God gives the Spirit!)

PRAYER TIME

Lord, thank You for Your invitation to enter Your kingdom and for Your clear directions of how to do so! In Jesus’ name, amen.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week’s message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

- ✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) 🤔 (Think about)
- ! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ➡️ (Must share)

Start-up: What do you know of the story of your birth? Was it “routine”, or unusual?

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline