GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Nicodemus Visits at Night

John 3:1-21



YOUR BIBLE READING

God's Spirit gives a new beginning, and God's Son brings saving love.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Teacher Comes with Questions

John 3:1-21



Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a leader among the Jewish people. He came to Jesus at night. John names the time but does not explain every reason for it, so we need not assume we know all Nicodemus' thoughts. He addressed Jesus respectfully as a teacher. The signs Jesus was doing, he said, showed that God was with him. Nicodemus brought recognition, but there was still much he did not understand.

Jesus answered by speaking of a new birth. A person needed to be born anew, or from above, to see God's kingdom. Nicodemus heard the image and wondered how an older person could be born a second time. Could someone return to a mother's womb? His question shows that he was thinking about an ordinary physical birth. Jesus was leading him toward a kind of life that would come through God's action.

Jesus spoke of being born of water and the Spirit. Human life comes through human birth, but the life he was describing comes through the Spirit. He told Nicodemus not to be surprised by this need. A respected position and years of teaching were not the same as receiving the life of God's kingdom. Nicodemus was being asked to consider something he could not produce simply by holding an important title or knowing many religious facts.

Jesus used the wind as a picture. A person can hear its sound without seeing where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with someone born of the Spirit. The image makes room for a reality whose effects can be known even though it cannot be controlled or fully seen. Nicodemus asked again how these things could be. The conversation remained a place of searching, explanation, and an invitation to understand more deeply.

Remember: God loved the world enough to give his Son.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

God’s Love and the Light

John 3:1-21



Jesus challenged Nicodemus about being a teacher of Israel while not understanding these things. He spoke of testimony that had not been received and of difficulty believing even when earthly pictures were used. Then he pointed toward his own identity as the Son of Man who came from heaven. The conversation was not only about a new idea. It concerned the person before Nicodemus and whether his witness would be trusted.

Jesus referred to the serpent Moses lifted up in the wilderness. In the same way, the Son of Man would be lifted up, so that those who believed in him could have eternal life. The comparison looked toward the saving purpose of Jesus’ own life and death. Nicodemus had begun by noticing signs. Now he was hearing of the greater work toward which those signs pointed, a work that called for trust in Jesus himself.

The passage goes on to describe God’s love for the world. God gave his one and only Son so that people who believe in him may receive eternal life. The purpose of the Son’s coming was the world’s salvation. These words place love at the center of the good news. Eternal life is more than simply starting a human lifetime again. It is the life given through the Son, received in trust rather than manufactured through personal importance.

The account also speaks of light and darkness. Light has come into the world, but people may avoid it because they do not want their evil actions exposed. Those who practice truth come into the light, where God’s work can be seen. These are pictures of honesty and response to God, not a judgment about ordinary night hours. The passage ends with the invitation to truth, without telling us Nicodemus’ final answer during this particular meeting.

Pause and think: What question or picture in this conversation would you like to understand more deeply?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

A New Beginning and Honest Questions



Nicodemus had an important position, yet he still had questions. We do not become too old or too knowledgeable to learn. If a word or image in the Bible puzzles you, ask a trusted adult and read the surrounding passage together. A question can help reveal where you need an explanation. Nicodemus' confusion about birth gave Jesus an opening to speak more clearly about the Spirit's work.

The wind is a useful picture because we can notice effects without holding the wind in our hands. Jesus used it to speak about life from the Spirit, not to give a science lesson about weather. Images often help us think about something difficult. Reading carefully includes asking what the picture is meant to show and where its purpose stops, rather than forcing every detail to match.

Light and darkness speak here about truth and hiding wrongdoing. They do not mean that darkness at bedtime is bad or that a child should be afraid of the night. In our lives, coming toward truth can mean admitting a mistake and accepting help to repair it. God's love invites trust and a new beginning, not a performance of pretending to be perfect.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Jesus invites people into life from God's Spirit, grounded in God's love and lived in truth.

What question or picture in this conversation would you like to understand more deeply?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Why did Nicodemus think Jesus came from God?

2. Did Jesus mean becoming a baby again?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Jesus tells of God's love and saving gift.
- ☐ Nicodemus visits Jesus at night.
- ☐ Jesus explains new life from the Spirit.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a nighttime conversation with lines showing the unseen wind.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

God loved the world enough to give his Son.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: John 3:16-17

A thoughtful conversation

Born anew can also be translated born from above. Explain spiritual new life without requiring a child to report a particular emotional experience. Nicodemus is a sincere individual, not a stereotype of Jewish people.

Activity answers

1. The signs Jesus did showed God was with him.
2. No. He meant a new life given by God's Spirit.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, thank you for loving the world. Help us grow in the life you give. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on John 3:1-21. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 43_Jn_03_02_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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