

Christian Education
CONVERSION

Chapter Three: What Is The Change We Need?

Main Idea:

Jesus teaches that in order to enter God's kingdom, we must be born again. God himself must give us a new nature in order that we would believe in Christ and do God's will.

Digging In:

In John 3, Jesus confronts Nicodemus with his need for radical change that can only come from God.

READ John 3.1-15 and answer the following questions:

1. What does Nicodemus say about who Jesus is? How does he know (v.2)?

2. What does Jesus say to Nicodemus in response to (v.3)? Why do you think Jesus says this?

3. Does Nicodemus understand what Jesus means (v.4)? Read Ezekiel 36.24-28

4. With this in mind, what do you think Jesus means when he says, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God (v.5)?

5. Read verse 7 and 8. In what way are people born of the Spirit like the wind and its effects? What is the point of Jesus comparison?

6. Does Nicodemus understand what Jesus is talking about in verse 7 and 8?

7. What does Jesus say about Nicodemus failure to understand (vv.10-11)?

8. What does Jesus say must happen in himself? What will be the result (vv.14-15).

9. Considering the passage as a whole, how would you summarize the change that Jesus says must happen in someone's life in order for them to enter the kingdom of God?

10. How does this change come about? Is it something that we can bring about of our own power? See also John 1.12-13)

11. What are some common objections to the belief that you must be born again in order to enter God's kingdom? How would you respond to them biblically?

12. How should the reality that we must be born again in order to enter the kingdom of God impact:

Our prayers for others?

Our evangelism?

How do we relate to those who claim to be Christians but whose love don't match up to that claim?

