

Option A – Bible Study

Theme: Born Again – Entering the Kingdom of God

Main Passage: John 3:1–21

1. Nicodemus: Religious but Searching

Nicodemus knew a lot about God, but he did not yet understand how to enter God’s kingdom. He came to Jesus at night because he was curious but also cautious.

- **Philippians 3:4–9** – Paul explains that religious achievements cannot save us.
 - **Matthew 23:27–28** – Jesus warns about outward religion without inner transformation.
1. Why do you think Nicodemus came to Jesus at night?
 2. What is the difference between **knowing about God** and **knowing God personally**?
 3. Can people still rely on religion or good works today instead of relationship with God?

2. The Kingdom of God

Jesus said that **no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again**. Cornelius explained that earthly kingdoms come and go, but God's kingdom lasts forever.

Cross References

- **Daniel 2:44** – God will establish a kingdom that will never be destroyed.
 - **Hebrews 12:28** – We are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken.
1. What do you think Jesus means by the “kingdom of God”?
 2. Why is being born into a kingdom important for belonging to it?
 3. What things do people trust in instead of God’s kingdom?

3. Born of the Spirit

Jesus explains that **flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit**. Being born again is a **spiritual transformation**, not just a religious decision.

Cross References

- **Ezekiel 36:26–27** – God promises to give a new heart and spirit.
- **2 Corinthians 5:17** – Anyone in Christ is a new creation.
- **Titus 3:5** – Salvation comes through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

1. Why can human effort or good works not produce spiritual life?
2. What changes might someone experience when they are born again?
3. How does the Holy Spirit work in a person's life?

4. The Cross and Grace

Jesus compared His future crucifixion to the bronze serpent lifted by Moses in the wilderness. The people were healed simply by **looking in faith**. In the same way, salvation comes by **looking to Jesus and believing in Him**.

- **Numbers 21:4–9** – The bronze serpent in the wilderness.
 - **2 Corinthians 5:21** – Jesus became sin for us.
 - **Ephesians 2:8–9** – Salvation is by grace through faith, not by works.
1. Why do people often think salvation must be earned?
 2. What does it mean to “look to Jesus” today?
 3. Why is grace such good news?

5. Living in the Light

Jesus said light came into the world, but some people prefer darkness. Being born again leads to a life lived **in the light of God**.

- **1 John 1:7** – Walking in the light.
- **John 8:12** – Jesus is the light of the world.

What does it look like to live in the light rather than the darkness?

7. Application and Prayer

1. Have you personally experienced the **new birth** Jesus speaks about?
2. Who do you know that needs prayer to come to faith?