

Look and Live!
Friend Day
John 3:1-18
11/10/25

I. Nicodemus was a religious man.

A. He was called a Pharisee.

John 3:1 “Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council.”

James 2:10 “For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.”

Romans 3:23 “... all of us have sinned ...”

B. He was a council member.

John 3:1b “... named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council.”

C. He was curious about Jesus.

John 3:2 “He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

II. Nicodemus was not right with the Lord.

A. Jesus presented a warning to Nicodemus.

John 3:3 “In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless He is born again.^[a]”

B. Nicodemus was perplexed by the message of Jesus.

John 3:4 “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!”

C. Jesus was prepared to explain His message.

John 3:5 “Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.”

James 1:18 “He chose to give us birth through the Word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all He created.”

1 Peter 1:23 “For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring Word of God.”

John 3:6 “Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.”

John 3:7 “You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’”

D. Jesus presented two illustrations.

1. Jesus shared an illustration about wind.

John 3:8 “The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

John 3:9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.”

John 3:10 “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things?”

John 3:11 “I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still, you people do not accept our testimony.”

John 3:12 “I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?”

John 3:13 “No one has ever gone into heaven except the One who came from heaven—the Son of Man.

2. Jesus shared an illustration about a snake in the wilderness.

John 3:14 “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,^[7]

Isaiah 45:22 “Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth.”

III. Nicodemus needed a relationship with Jesus.

A. This relationship is based on God’s love.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

1 John 3:16a “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. ...”

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”

Romans 6:23a “For the wages of sin is death”

Ephesians 2:9 “Not of works, so that no one can boast.”

Hebrews 9:26b “... But now He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of Himself.”

B. This relationship begins by faith.

John 3:15 “That everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.”

John 3:16b “... that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

John 14:6 “... I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Romans 6:23b “... but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

C. This relationship has a bright future.

John 3:16c “Whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:17 “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

John 3:18 “Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.”