

January 26, 2014  
John 3:1-21

**Key Verse:** “Jesus answered him, ‘Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.’” John 3:3

**Time:** 30-33 CE

**Background:** Nicodemus likely came by night so he wouldn't be seen by others. Nighttime also symbolized unbelief, as the light symbolized belief. Nicodemus came with questions and doubts about Jesus, his authority, and his message.



Nicodemus's lack of understanding about being “born from above” or “born again” might mirror our own. What does it mean to be born again? Our Christian heritage of baptism can place a layer of understanding, as we understand baptism as giving new life through water and Spirit. But perhaps it is okay to let the ambiguous language hold some mystery.

**Community:** What does it mean that “everyone who believes in him may not perish”? What of non-believers? How might you go about opening a respectful conversation with a non-believer about eternal life?

#### **FAITHS:**

1. SHARE highs and lows of the day.
2. READ and highlight the **KEY VERSE** (above) in your bible.
3. TALK about how the verse relates to your highs & lows.
4. PRAY for your highs & lows, for your family, and for the world.
5. BLESS one another (see back of this sheet for more details about FAITHS)

**Next Week:** Sunday, Feb 2, *Woman at the Well*, John 4:1-42

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## Faith 5

1. **SHARE** highs & lows of the day
2. **READ** and highlight a verse of Scripture in your Bible
3. **TALK** about how the verse relates to your highs & lows
4. **PRAY** for your highs & lows, for your family, and for the world
5. **BLESS** one another

### Take 5!

1. **SHARE:** All of our lives include highs and lows. Share them both.
2. **READ:** See the other side of this bulletin for verse(s).
3. **TALK:** How does this scripture relate to your day? To your life? There is no right answer here.
4. **PRAY:** No fancy words necessary.
5. **BLESS:** Yes, you can bless! Mark the sign of the cross on your or another's forehead. Simple words of "You are loved" or "You are God's favorite child" or something more specific to you or your family. You can even bless yourself.

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