

# Snapshots of Redemption: Redeemed from Religion

September 13, 2020

John 3:1-7

## Sermon Summary

In this series we are going to look at people who encountered Jesus, people who met him and whose lives were changed by Him. We all have struggles, we all have obstacles to faith, and we all need an experience with God.

The key term “born again” or the new birth is a term that is used to describe what happens to a person when they are saved. This meeting with Nicodemus is one of the earliest encounters that Jesus has with an individual and the first that deals with someone that is not coming to him for healing.

The new birth is taught in Titus 3:5 and in 1 Peter 1:23. It is a theological term that means “regeneration.” It describes how you are infused with the divine nature of God at salvation.

Nicodemus met Jesus and his life was changed. He discovered and teaches us what it looks like to be redeemed from religion.

## The New Birth is Essential for Spiritual Life

It is Required for Everyone

The message of the new birth is more radically against religion and morality than any other spiritual claim.

## It Is the Life of the Holy Spirit in You

You cannot become a Christian by adding more of subtracting something from your life. You need to become a different person at the root.

## It Is Received by Faith

The new birth is all of grace and it is all by Christ.

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## Small Group Guide

### Ice Breaker and Introduction

- When have you felt like you wanted to start life all over again?
- Read Sermon Summary
- Read John 3:1-7

### What Does the Bible Say?

- To what group did Nicodemus belong?
- At what time did Nicodemus visit Jesus?
- Why did Nicodemus believe Jesus was from God?
- What is the qualification for seeing the kingdom of God?
- What did Nicodemus think Jesus meant when He said that a person must be born again?
- What is required to enter the kingdom of God?

### How Does It Apply to Me?

- When would you say you were born again?
- How would you describe what it means to be born again to someone?
- What were some of the circumstances that led you to Jesus?
- What were some things that caused you to believe that Jesus was the Son of God?
- Why are spiritual truths often hard to understand?
- What are a few spiritual truths you struggle to understand?

### What Do I Need to Do with This?

- For what specific spiritual truths will you seek answers this week?