

KIDTOWN GUIDE

1st-5th Grades

DATE: 5/17/20

SCRIPTURE: John 3

LESSON: Jesus and Nicodemus



INTRO

Parents say to your kid(s) - As you know, we don't get to do Kidtown with all our Kidtown friends. However, we DO get to do it here together as a family! A lot of things are different during this pandemic and we're having to make adjustments as we go. What's been your favorite part of quarantine so far?

New Again - Kids love to learn in concrete ways. This activity is a simple object lesson to help your kids interact with the Bible story they're about to learn.

Take a piece of paper and then crumple it up into a ball. Make sure it's REALLY crumpled. (You can have multiple people crumple it if you want to get it extra crumpled.) Now ask them to straighten it back out like it was brand new. (Spoiler alert: You can't.) Talk about how there are some things that are impossible for us to fix on our own. Ask them if they can think of any examples? Then say "Sin is like that. We can't straighten ourselves out on our own. We need a Savior."



LESSON - JESUS AND NICODEMUS

Watch the Gospel Project Bible video: [Jesus and Nicodemus](#)

Story Point #1: (Kids repeat!)

Nicodemus followed God's law really well. (Kids repeat!)

Nicodemus was a Pharisee. That meant he was a spiritual leader and knew the Jewish law REALLY well. He thought obeying God's law was the path to being right with God. He dedicated his life to God's law: studying it, obeying it and teaching it. However, he was also intrigued by Jesus. And when Nicodemus came to Jesus, Jesus taught him that everything he thought he knew about how people come to God was wrong...

Story Point #2: (Kids repeat!)

Jesus told Nicodemus everyone needs to be born again. (Kids repeat!)

Born again?! Nicodemus was confused. That's a pretty weird thing to say right? People are only born once, right? You can't do it again! But Jesus was using a metaphor, a picture. We need a new heart. New mind. New desires. A new spirit. How do we do that? Jesus gives us an insight when Nicodemus is still confused!

Story Point #3: (Kids repeat!)

Jesus told Nicodemus everyone needs to be saved by faith. (Kids repeat!)

He reminded Nic of a story from the Old Testament we learned about in Kidtown last year: the bronze snake! Do you remember that one? The Israelites didn't trust God, so God sent snakes as a judgment, The snakes bit them with a really bad venom. BUT God also had Moses put a bronze snake on a pole and anyone that looked at it with faith would be saved. Jesus is telling Nic to look up! Look up to what..?

Christ Connection! (Kids repeat!)

The people were saved by faith when they looked at the bronze snake. (Kids repeat) **Similarly, we are saved by faith when we look at Jesus on the cross.** (Kids repeat)

God loved us so much that He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. When we look at Jesus on the cross and believe in Him, He forgives us of our sin and gives us eternal life with Him. We are “born again”, like Jesus was telling Nicodemus. We are given new life with Him!

RESPONSE



Sing: [In This Way](#)
[If Any of You](#) (Led by Ms. Sharon Von Fangel)

Pray: Hey God, thank You for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins so that we can have eternal life when we believe in Him.

Discuss:

- What stood out to you from this story? *Let kids answer. Non-spiritual answers are okay--we want them to interact with Scripture, not just regurgitate facts.*
- What was Nicodemus' job? *Nic was a pharisee - a teacher of the law.*
- What did Jesus tell Nicodemus someone had to do to see the kingdom of God? *Be born again! (Or they might say something about the bronze snake)*
- What story from the Old Testament did Jesus use and why that one? *When God told Moses in the desert to lift up a bronze snake on a stick so His people would be healed. He used it because it was a picture of Jesus being lifted up on the cross so everyone who believes in Him would be saved.*
- How can you look up to God with faith this week? *Parents share first!*
- *Parents, now might be a good time to talk with your children about their faith in Jesus. Don't feel any pressure to "get them saved" right then and there, but having developmentally-appropriate spiritual conversations on a regular basis about faith in Jesus is an important part of discipling your children. Consider asking them some simple yes-no questions at first, followed by questions to see what they understand of what they're saying yes or no to. For example, "Do you believe in Jesus?" followed by "What do you think it means to believe in Jesus and have a relationship with Him?"*
- Does anyone have any questions? Was anything about this lesson confusing?
 - *Allow time for questions and if you don't know the answers, that's okay. Affirm their question and let them know that you don't know but will try to find out. If you have any questions you are really stumped on, feel free to email us at kidtown@midtowncolumbia.com.*



BONUS ACTIVITIES

Coloring Sheet - [Jesus Talks With Nicodemus](#)

Parent Share - Nicodemus was confused and challenged by what Jesus was telling him about being born again, what do you do when you are confused or challenged by something in scripture?

Secret Spy - Using yarn, create some “security lasers” in a room or a hallway in your house. Have kids start at one end of the hallway and work their way down without touching any of the lasers! Kids are going to love pretending to be spies and sneaking through the lasers without getting caught.