

THE FORGOTTEN JESUS PODCAST

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Season 5, Episode 10

Six Ways to Be Born Again

John 3:3-8

Opening

Start with a brief prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to understand the Word and its application in your lives.

Discussion

1. What did you understand the term “born again” to mean before listening to this episode? How has your understanding changed?
2. Why is it significant that Jesus is speaking to Nicodemus, a Jewish leader, about the need to be born again?
3. What are the six ways someone could be born again, according to the teaching in this episode? How might each of these have been familiar to Nicodemus?
4. What does it mean to “see the kingdom of God” in the context of John 3:3-8?
5. Jesus says, “Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.” What do you think Jesus is referring to with these terms?
6. How does the difference between being born of the flesh and being born of the Spirit affect how we live as disciples of Jesus?
7. What do Ezekiel 36:27 and 11:19-20 reveal about God’s work in us through the Holy Spirit? How do these passages relate to the concept of being born again?

8. What does Jesus mean when He says, “The wind blows where it pleases”? How does this relate to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives?
 9. Why do you think many Christians today fail to experience the kingdom power in their lives, as discussed in the episode?
 10. How can we live in a way that reflects both our natural birth and our spiritual rebirth as citizens of God’s kingdom?
-

Application Questions

1. Have you experienced the supernatural change that comes with being born again? If so, how has it impacted your life?
 2. In what ways can you ensure that you’re living in obedience to the Holy Spirit’s guidance, as emphasized in the episode?
 3. What areas of your life might still be influenced more by the flesh than by the Spirit? How can you invite the Holy Spirit into those areas?
 4. How can you experience the benefits and blessings of being a kingdom citizen in your day-to-day life?
 5. What steps can you take this week to deepen your relationship with the Holy Spirit and experience His guidance more fully?
 6. How does your understanding of the kingdom of God change how you view your current circumstances and challenges?
 7. Are there any aspects of your spiritual life where you’ve been relying on your “heritage” (like Nicodemus relying on his Jewish birthright) rather than being born again in the Spirit?
 8. What does it mean for you personally to be a disciple who is “training for reigning,” as Dallas Willard describes it?
 9. How can you share the concept of being “born again” with someone who may be unfamiliar with it or confused by it?
 10. How will your understanding of the Holy Spirit’s role in your life change how you pray or make decisions in the future?
-

Prayer Prompt

“Father, we thank You for the gift of new life through the Spirit. Help us to fully understand and experience what it means to be born again. Holy Spirit, guide us into all truth, empower us to live in obedience, and reveal the fullness of the kingdom of God in our daily lives. May we be faithful disciples, training for the reign of Christ in our lives and in the world around us. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

Additional Resources

1. **Book:** *The Kingdom of God* by David E. Garland – a deeper dive into the concept of the kingdom as understood in the New Testament
2. **Article:** “Born Again: The Biblical Meaning and Significance” by Arnold Fruchtenbaum – explores the historical and theological context of being born again, particularly from a Jewish perspective
3. **Book:** *The Spirit of the Disciplines* by Dallas Willard – a comprehensive look at how spiritual disciplines prepare us for the kingdom of God
4. **Scripture to Reflect On:**
 - John 3:1-16
 - Ezekiel 36:24-28
 - Ezekiel 11:19-20
 - John 16:13-14

Encourage group members to meditate on these resources throughout the week as they continue to reflect on the passage and the themes discussed.