

THE FORGOTTEN JESUS PODCAST

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Season 5, Episode 9

Nicodemus: Under the Cloak of Darkness

John 3:1-4

Discussion

1. Who was Nicodemus, and why was his visit to Jesus significant?
2. Why do you think Nicodemus approached Jesus at night? What might this reveal about his faith journey?
3. How does Nicodemus's role as a Pharisee and Sanhedrin member shape his interaction with Jesus?
4. What does Jesus mean by the phrase "born again"? How does this challenge Nicodemus's understanding?
5. Compare the Greek and Hebrew perspectives on the Kingdom of God as discussed in the podcast. How do these views differ?
6. How does Nicodemus's journey of faith evolve throughout the Gospel of John (e.g., John 3, John 7:50–52, John 19:38–42)?
7. What does it mean to "see" the Kingdom of God in the present tense, as explained by Pastor Robby Gallaty?
8. How does Jesus's teaching on the Kingdom of God challenge common misconceptions about salvation and eternal life?
9. How might wealth, status, or comfort hinder someone from fully experiencing the Kingdom of God, as mentioned in Mark 10:23–25?
10. What lessons can we learn from Nicodemus's encounter with Jesus about seeking truth and spiritual rebirth?

Application Questions

1. Reflect on your spiritual journey: Have you ever approached God with questions or doubts like Nicodemus? What did you learn?
2. How can you step out of your “comfort zone” to seek a deeper relationship with Jesus?
3. What areas of your life might need spiritual “rebirth”? How can you invite the Holy Spirit to transform you?
4. How does understanding the present reality of God’s Kingdom impact your daily decisions?
5. Are there “nighttime” moments in your life where you’ve sought Jesus in secrecy? What encouraged or challenged you?
6. How does your faith reflect the tension between intellectual understanding and childlike belief?
7. What steps can you take to help others “see” and experience the Kingdom of God here and now?
8. How can you use your resources, influence, or position, like Nicodemus, to serve Jesus?
9. Who in your life might need encouragement to seek Jesus more openly? How can you support them?
10. What habits or practices can you adopt to better align with the Kingdom of God as a present reality?

Prayer Prompt

Spend time as a group asking God to reveal areas where each member needs to experience spiritual rebirth. Pray for boldness to step out of the darkness into the light of Christ’s truth. Ask the Holy Spirit to give your group a clearer vision of the Kingdom of God and the courage to live as Kingdom citizens.

Additional Resources

Books:

- ***The Forgotten Jesus*** by Robby Gallaty—dive deeper into the Hebraic understanding of Jesus and His teachings
- **CSB Study Bible**—Explore the commentary on John 3.
- ***Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus*** by Lois Tverberg—Understand the Jewish context of Jesus’s life and ministry.
- Scriptures for further study: John 7:50–52, John 19:38–42, and Mark 10:23–25

Podcasts:

- ***BEMA Discipleship***—particularly episodes discussing John 3 and Nicodemus.
- ***Making Disciples*** with Robby Gallaty—episodes on discipleship and encountering Jesus in Scripture