

How Can I Become A Christian ?

Lesson 5

John 3:1-21

Memory verse

God loved the world so much that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Opener

Have you ever wondered how a person can get to Heaven? How do you think we get there? Listen to the story and let's answer this question again at the end of the lesson.

John 3:1-2

Scripture

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."

Nicodemus was an important leader in the town. He wanted to talk to Jesus about how to get to Heaven, so he went to see Jesus one night. He was being secretive because he did not want his friends to see him with Jesus.

Discussion

John 3:3-8

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus asked Jesus his question, but Jesus answered Nicodemus in a strange way. Jesus told him the only way to God's kingdom (Heaven) was to be born twice.

This confused Nicodemus. He asked Jesus how a person could be born two times. Jesus told him that the first time a person is born as a baby. The second time is when a person believes and trusts Jesus. The second birth means that a person changes his ways and follows Jesus with all his heart.

Jesus continued to tell him about God's love. He explained to Nicodemus that God loved him so much that He had a plan so he could be in Heaven with God. Jesus explained that He was God's Son and that God gave Him so that whoever believes in Jesus will spend forever with God. Several years later we find out what happened to Nicodemus. When Jesus died, Nicodemus and another man helped get a grave for Jesus. They showed that they loved Jesus. Can you imagine how excited they were when Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday morning?!

John 3:9-21

"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

Application

Ask: How was Nicodemus able to be born again?

Nicodemus trusted Jesus. He knew that the ONLY way to get into Heaven was by trusting Jesus and asking Him to come into his life. Nicodemus did this. He was a different person after that. He started loving people and doing what Jesus would do. Jesus can do the same thing in your life. When He comes into your life, He forgives you for ALL your sins. The best part is that He doesn't even remind you of those sins again.

Ask: What happens when we sin?

You can go to Jesus and ask Him to forgive you and tell Him that you really want to do right.

Ask: What does God do?

He forgives and helps you do what is right. It's not easy living for God instead of you.

Ask: What are some good things we can do to avoid sin?

We can read the Bible and see that God wants us to love Him and to love one another. God shows us His will when we seek Him.

Ask: Can someone tell us how we can become Christians like Nicodemus?

Romans 10:9-10

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Then we will be saved and we will have a new life.