

DISCUSSION 1

Jesus steps on the scene proclaiming the expected arrival of the kingdom of God. This kingdom came with power, yet not in the way that Israel expected.

1. Nicodemus came to Jesus because he was curious about the things of God. Have you ever had someone inquire about your relationship with God? How did you respond to them?
2. Verse two of our passage tells us that Jesus did miracles to verify that he came from God. Do you believe that someone needs to see miracles in order to believe in Christ? Why or why not?
3. Jesus teaches many things regarding the kingdom of God. How would you define and describe the kingdom of God?

DISCUSSION 2

Anyone who will enter the kingdom of God must experience a new birth—the birth that Jesus speaks of in this passage.

1. In verse three, Jesus tells Nicodemus that unless someone is born again, they cannot see the kingdom of God. Why is it necessary for someone to be born again (See 1 Cor. 2:14)?
2. Read Ezekiel 36:25-27. What are a few signs that someone has been born again?
3. Read John 3:8. How do you understand this verse in regard to someone being born again? Would you say you have a healthy understanding of the Holy Spirit?

DISCUSSION 3

Jesus is the incarnation of the eternal God, who came to earth from heaven.

1. Jesus rebukes the Pharisee Nicodemus in verse nine for not knowing that one must be born again, since he should have known the Old Testament. On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your knowledge of the Old Testament? What could you do to improve that number?
2. Read Numbers 21:4-9. Why does John connect this story to Jesus as the Savior who would be “lifted up”?

3. How would you define eternity? What does John mean when he says that those who believe in Jesus will have “eternal life”? Will everyone have this? How do you know?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. What earthly kingdoms can you think of? How might those kingdoms be different than the kingdom of God? How should we live in God’s kingdom?
2. Read Ezekiel 36:25-27. What does it mean to be “born again”?
3. Reread John 3:8. What does this verse say about the Holy Spirit? Spend some time talking about the nature of the Holy Spirit and his role in the lives of Christians.

APPLICATION

1. The Holy Spirit is often the person of the Trinity who gets overlooked and forgotten. He is God and worthy of our praise. Consider doing a personal study on the Holy Spirit and how he works in our lives. A great book to read is “Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit” by Francis Chan.
2. Every morning for the next week, pray that God would give you opportunities to share his kingdom and his good news with others. Ask that his Spirit would empower you in mighty ways this week.