

Encounters with Jesus
Part One: A Perplexing Pronouncement
John 3:1-18
December 7, 2025

1. Nicodemus was a sincere Pharisee who wanted to know who Jesus was (John 3:1-2)
 - We don't know why he came to Jesus at night.
 - Jesus' miracles convinced him that he was sent by God.
2. Instead of explaining who he was, Jesus told Nicodemus that to see God's kingdom, he had to be born again (John 3:3-8)
 - Nicodemus had no idea what Jesus meant.
 - We all need 2 births—physical and spiritual
 - As with the wind, we can't observe it with our eyes but we can see the effects.
3. As a teacher of the Scriptures, Nicodemus should have understood what Jesus meant (John 3:9-13)
 - He failed to receive the testimony that God gave through his Word.
 - Jesus, the Son of Man, came from heaven to reveal these truths.
4. God sent his Son so we could be saved through him (John 3:14-18)
 - Moses' serpent on a pole pictures the Son of God on the cross.
 - Sending his Son was the premiere way in which God demonstrated his love for us.