

STUDY GUIDE

NEVER THE SAME 3.15.15

[instructions for LifeGroup leaders]

As you prepare to take your LifeGroup through this study, remember that this guide is provided in the hopes that you will customize it based on the insights you have of your group. You can dig deeper by studying in advance for additional references, study helps and applications or you can trim it down and focus on one section that you feel your group needs to discuss and grow in. It's your study "guide". Modify as much as you want and have fun with it!

[setup]

Do you have any stories of New Life conversations to share?

Do you have the assurance that if you were to die today, you would go to heaven? Briefly share why you answered the way you did. If you do have that assurance, when did it become real and fixed for you? (For a larger lifegroup, you may want to split into two groups to share these answers)

[digging deeper]

This last weekend we looked at a man named Nicodemus. He only appears in the Gospel of John. Read John 3:1-18 to see/review part of his story

Briefly answer the following questions to extract some insights:

- What are some possible reasons as to why Nicodemus came to Jesus at night?
- What was Nicodemus seeking?
- What about his background was an advantage for him/worked for him in this conversation?
- What about his background was a disadvantage/worked against him in this conversation?

Jesus used a reference to Moses and a historical account found in Numbers 21:5-9. Read that passage and connect it to the idea Jesus was trying to convey. Where do we see the symbol of the pole and serpent today? (If you are stumped and need a hint find it at the bottom of this sheet.)

How does 1 John 5:6-12 help us understand what Jesus was saying by echoing and elaborating on John 3:18?

How does John 7:50-52 help identify a shift in Nicodemus from when he first talked to Jesus?

How does John 19:38-42 help us know the outcome of what happened in the heart of Nicodemus?

The big idea from this last weekend was "Born once, die twice. Born twice, die once." What does that mean?



[live it out]

As you reflect on the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus on the need to be born again, how does it make you feel? What do you sense God stir in you?

Write one tangible action step you can take to act upon what is being stirred in you:

How does this message and this study guide help motivate you to faithfully engage in CVC's "New Life 10|24"? Write the name of someone you've been praying for and what next step you can take this week to share the message of needing to be spiritually born.

(Num. 21:9 hint – Ambulance)