

Intro: Today we are going to continue our series on “Learning To Love Like Jesus” *Loving People With Spiritual Questions*
John 3:1-21 Page 751

We all have people in our life that are like Nicodemus. They are trying to figure out what it means to know God.

- They see something that is attractive to them.
- They realize there is something missing. They know it’s there.
- They think it might have something to do with this guy Jesus
Question: How Do I Get it! How do I have a relationship with God?
- We all probably know someone like that...
- YOU might BE that person!!! (Like Nicodemus, you are checking this thing out!)

If you want to love people like Jesus did when they have spiritual questions, or if YOU have spiritual questions, Here is what you need to know:

1. We All Exist In Two Entirely Different Worlds At The Same Time. Vs 1-2

- They LOOK the same...but they are very, very different!
- TV Commercial: State Farm
- Jesus is saying much the same thing to Nicodemus: Two different worlds
 - **Physical:** The One You See
 - **Spiritual:** The Other One You Get Glimpses of Occasionally (No one Could do the miracles...)The really overlap...though they are different.
Because we are both physical and spiritual beings, we have the capacity to see them both
That is what happened to Nicodemus, and happens to us occasionally. We see something amazing...God

2. While We Exist In Both Worlds, We Are ALIVE In One...and DEAD In The Other! Vs 3-8

- Jesus said, You Can’t have (Observe and Understand, Experience Fully) The Spiritual World Unless Born Again (Glimpses)
- What we WANT is to have BOTH...That is what people with Spiritual Questions are seeking
Nicodemus doesn’t get it! He Thinks Jesus is talking about Physical Birth! (So oriented to Physical, all he can see!)
- You MUST Be Born Again: You HAD a PHYSICAL birth...But you haven’t had a SPIRITUAL birth!
>Physical Birth: Water Vs 5
>Spiritual Birth Spirit Vs 5
>Two interesting things in passing: MUST: Imperative Again/Above

3. The Spiritual World Is God’s, And If We Want That We Must Come On His Terms. Vs 3-16

- Jesus calls the Spiritual World “The Kingdom Of God” No one can see UNLESS
- When we come to that world...we come on His terms...He is in charge...we surrender everything!
- Requires spiritual birth vs 3-8
>Spirit of God makes it possible vs 9-15 (No one comes to father, spiritual life requires spiritual work)
>Ex: Moses and Serpent Numbers 21:4-9 pg 111
God is leading people God was leading us
They rebel We rebelled: In Adam, and On our own accord
Judgment snake Judgment: The wages of sin...is death
Bit, die All of us bitten...We are ALL Spiritually dead (*Movie: Dead Man Walking*)
Moses made way God made a way
Lift up serpent Jesus was lifted up
Look and Live Look and Live
- Jesus Came To Provide The Way For Us To Have Spiritual Life. Vs 16
>Jesus is the equivalent of the “snake” in the story of the OT
>God’s provision: No other will do
>God’s sufficient sacrifice His Kingdom...He sets the rules
>Belief in Jesus is the way Just like snake: No other remedy
>Belief is not just intellectual agreement, it is surrender to Christ as King: Kingdom of God!
>He has absolute control...Nothing is held back

>Family, HIS Heart, HIS Job, HIS Money, HIS Dreams, HIS Sexuality, HIS
EVERYTHING BELONGS TO HIM. WE PLACE OUR LIFE IN HIS HANDS! HE IS ABSOLUTE KING
WE SURRENDER THIS LIFE (PHYSICAL) FOR THAT LIFE (SPIRITUAL) WITHOUT CONDITION!!!

Every single aspect of our life is surrendered to His control.

1 Cor 6:19-20 “You are not your own you were bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s!”

4. Our Response To Jesus Has Consequences.

Vs 17-12

- God sent Jesus to save us Lit = *to rescue from danger* Spiritual danger
- We stand condemned already: We come with the default setting of sin and death (we are dead) glimpse
- We have to turn from the darkness and evil of this work, from self control and self direction to God
- It is not the “natural” choice. Our nature is to avoid the spiritual “light” and stay in “darkness”

Applic: Unless we believe in Jesus, surrender to Him, and give Him our life...we stay in our sin and we will be separated from God for eternity Vs 18

We may be walking around physically, we may get glimpses of spiritual life: **DEAD MAN WALKING!!!**

CONCL:

How do you Love Like Jesus when someone has a spiritual question? You tell them about God’s open door to heaven!

Penn Jillette

“I’ve always said that I don’t respect people who don’t proselytize. I don’t respect that at all. If you believe that there’s a heaven and a hell, and people could be going to hell or not getting eternal life, and you think that it’s not really worth telling them this because it would make it socially awkward—and atheists who think people shouldn’t proselytize and who say just leave me along and keep your religion to yourself—how much do you have to hate somebody to *not* proselytize? How much do you have to hate somebody to believe everlasting life is possible and not tell them that?”

TWO DIFFERENT RESPONSES TO TODAY’S MESSAGE

1. If you know someone that has spiritual questions...tell them!

Not a guilt trip, or twisting an arm. Genuinely, authentically believe people without Jesus separated from Him forever, then we have to do everything we can to share that message with them.

2. Maybe you are here...been coming for a while, but you have NEVER “looked” to Jesus, never put your faith and your trust in Him. I want to encourage you to make that decision, take the action, right now.

- a. If you want to do that, I’m going to ask you to bow your head and pray with me.**
- b. Before we pray, will you let me know? I want to be able to pray for you and with you**
- c. Raise your hand as I pray**
- d. Fill out a card and Come see me in the connect room...I want to give you some material**

Prayer:

Father, I know that I have been living in the physical world and that I don’t have spiritual life...I want that life. Today I am looking to Jesus and asking Him to forgive my sin and give me spiritual life. I want to be “born again” just like Jesus said so that I can know you and walk with you. Right now I surrender my life and everything in it to you. Come live in me, guide me, direct me and show me how to live for you. Amen