



LESSON 4 ONE AND ONLY SON

JOHN 3

1. What new insight did you gain from last week's passage about Jesus' first public demonstrations of his divine power ("signs") which revealed His **Glory**?
2. Pray and ask God to open your heart and mind as you read **John 3**. Now re-read **John 3** and make note of repeated words or phrases.
3. In **V1-2**, we learn that Nicodemus visited Jesus at night. Why do you think Nicodemus chose to schedule his visit under the cover of darkness? In what situations (if any) are you likely to keep your faith under cover?
4. a) In **V3-9**, Jesus' statements about the necessity of being born again seem to leave Nicodemus confused and surprised. Compare being born of flesh versus being born of Spirit. See **V5-7**.

b) In **V8**, Jesus uses the metaphor of the wind to describe the mystery of spiritual birth to Nicodemus. How would you describe being born again (use a metaphor if you can)? See **2 Cor. 5:17** for more insight.

5. Jesus seems to scold Nicodemus, a Jewish teacher, for his lack of understanding of what Jesus has been teaching (**John 3:10-12**). In what ways did you, or do you need to open your understanding (even “unlearn”) in order to believe in “heavenly things”?

6. *Challenge*: Read **V13-15**. To what event do you think Jesus is referring and why do you think Jesus draws a similarity between the Son of Man and a snake? See **Numbers 21:4-9, John 3:16-17** and **6:40**.

7. The word “believe” is repeated five times in **V15-18**. Define “believe” and discuss what difference it makes to believe in God’s **One and Only Son**.

8. What truth about God and mankind based on **V19-21** can you relate to your own life or to our culture? (Note: a truth is true for all time, for all people, everywhere.)

9. In John the Baptist's conversation with his disciples, he clearly understood both his own role and that Jesus was Messiah (**V22-30**). Comment on John's response to Jesus ministry taking shape, especially in **V29-30**.

10. What do you learn about the roles and the relationship of the Father, Son and Spirit in **V31-36**?

11. REFLECTING ON HIS NAME: ONE & ONLY SON

Jesus is called God's **One and Only Son (V16,18)**. Spend some time reflecting on the intimate relationship between a parent and an only child. Use the space below to write a prayer as you consider the sacrifice made by both Father and Son to send Jesus to save the world in which **"people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil"** (John 3:19b).

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST