John 3:1-17

Keep asking questions

Late one night, a man called Nicodemus visited Jesus. Now Nicodemus was a Pharisee ✱ and he was an important Jewish leader. He said to Jesus, 'I know God has sent you to teach us. You couldn't perform the miracles you do if God was not with you.' ?

Jesus replied, 'You are right. Let me tell you this. If you want to understand God's kingdom you must be born again.' ✱

Nicodemus looked puzzled. 'But how can anyone be born again when they have already been born? ? How can anyone be born if they have already grown old? ? I don't understand what you mean.' ?

Jesus answered, 'To enter God's kingdom you must be born by water and by the Spirit. A human gives life to a child, but only God's Spirit can give life to a child of God. Everyone must be born again. The Spirit is like the wind, that blows where it chooses. You can hear the wind, but you don't know where it comes from or where it goes.' ✱

'What do you mean? ? How does this happen?' ? Nicodemus asked.

Jesus replied, 'You are an important teacher in Israel and you don't know these things! I have told you about things here on earth and you don't believe me. So you will never believe me if I tell you about things in heaven.' ?

Jesus continued, 'God loved the world so much that he sent his Son into the world. He did this so that anyone who believes in him will have everlasting life. God didn't send his Son into the world to tell the world how bad it was. He sent his own Son to earth to save the world.' ✱

See session outline on p.10

Stop and share

Read the story and pause at the ✱ to share these points with the children.

- ✱ Pharisees kept the Jewish law very strictly and many felt Jesus was not strict enough.
- ✱ Jesus says that we don't just have a human birth – God's Spirit also gives us new life as a child of God.
- ✱ God has sent Jesus to show how much God loves the world and to give everyone this chance to start again. sheepfold.

To explore the ? see **Share the Word**, p.10

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