

Victoria Fellowship Church
International & Interdenominational
Bible Study Worksheet – Feb., 11, 2024

Theme: The Foundation of the Christian Faith. **Topic:** You must be Born-Again.

Main Texts: John 3:1-18.

Key verse: John 3:3 – “Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” (NIV)

INTRODUCTION: We continue our study on ‘the Foundation of the Christian Faith’ with today’s profound teaching by our Lord Jesus on the necessity of being born-again. “You must be born again,” is the answer that Jesus gives to the most vital question: “How do I gain eternal life?”. The phrase translated “born again” can also be translated as “born from above”. Jesus first spoke this to the need of Nicodemus who came to consult with Him at night. What Nicodemus needed and by extension the entire humanity, is a spiritual transformation that could only come from above. Being born once makes us children of Adam, and we share Adam’s sin and fall. When we believe, we receive the power to become children of God because of the substitutionary atonement of Christ’s death on the cross. Just as Adam is the federal head of the human race, Christ is the federal head of the righteous with eternal life.

1. (a) Compare John 3:2 & John 3:3. Why did Jesus answer Nicodemus the way He did (when the answer seemed unrelated to Nicodemus’s first statement)? (b) Why is “You must be Born Again” considered one of the foundations of our Christian faith?

Eternity with God is the plan of God for mankind (Ecles 3:11b). However, ever since the fall of the first Adam, humans have been working in various ways to earn eternal life. This was the endeavor Nicodemus was preoccupied with. As a ruler, a teacher, and a Pharisee, he had “good works” and self-righteousness which he hoped would earn him eternal life. Jesus made it very clear to him and to us by extension, that no one can enter eternity with God by “good” works. It is only through faith in Christ alone “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life” and “Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God”. John 3:16 and John 3:18.

2. (a) What is the difference between how other religions strive for eternal life and Christianity? (b) How will you answer someone who tells you that there are many ways one can get into eternity with God? How will you reconcile John 3:18 and James 2:14-18?

When one receives Christ by faith, he or she has been born again and is now a child of God by right of that new birth. Faith in Jesus Christ, the One who paid the penalty for sin when He died on the cross, is how one is born again. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: the old has gone, the new has come!” (2 Corinthians 5:17). If you have never trusted in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you need to be born again. Will you pray a prayer of repentance and faith and become a new creation in Christ today? “Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God - children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God” (John 1:12–13).

3. (a) How will you respond to some who says to you, ‘I am a Christian but not born again’? (b) According to our main text, why is being born into a Christian home or church attendance, or knowledge of the Bible, or good works not enough to enter God’s Kingdom? See John 3:1, 6, 10.? (c) Let one or two participants share how they became born again.

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for reminding us today that except we are Born Again, that we cannot enter your kingdom. Help us to take this message to the perishing world and bring them to the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in Jesus’ name, amen.