

A person is shown from the chest up, holding up the word "NEW" in large, glowing, white letters. The person is wearing a teal-colored long-sleeved shirt. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an indoor setting with some greenery.

NEW

New Birth **John 2:1-21**

*These questions are provided to lead the group in **applying** the teaching from Sunday. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in being a doer of God's Word. Challenge each other and be vulnerable as God works IN and THROUGH you together.*

1. Who has God placed on your heart to invite to The Table (1-Year Rally)? Have you had any table meetings (Church? Community? Cultures?)? If so, how's it going?
2. Where were you born?
3. Read John 3:1-21. What stands out to you most in this conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus?
4. In verses 1-2, what do we learn about Nicodemus? Why do you think Nicodemus came to Jesus at night?
5. In verses 3-5, according to Jesus, what is necessary to "see" and "enter the kingdom of God"?
6. What does it mean to be "born again" – to be "born of water and the Spirit"? Why is physical birth a good analogy of how our Christian lives begin? Compare and contrast a physical birth with a spiritual birth – how are they the same and different?
7. Why did Jesus tell a highly religious man that he still needed spiritual rebirth? Why is it so easy to confuse religious activity with a genuine spiritual relationship with God?
8. In verses 6-8, Jesus said the nature of the new birth is spiritual. What illustration did he use for the Holy Spirit and how is it a good example of how the Holy Spirit works? How might Nicodemus' knowledge of Ezekiel 36:25–27 have helped him understand the new birth? How is spiritual transformation different from behavior modification?
9. Why do we need spiritual life and where is it found? See Ephesians 2:1-2 and John 6:63.
10. In verses 14-15, what is the significance of Jesus referencing Moses lifting up the serpent in the wilderness (Numbers 21)? Why is belief in Jesus central to salvation?
11. What does John 3:16 reveal about God's character and mission? How do verses 17-18 address the misconception that God wants to condemn people?
12. In verses 19–21, why do some people spiritually prefer darkness over light? What areas of your life are hardest to bring into the light? What is the evidence of living in the light and new birth? What does it look like practically in your life? Give examples.
13. To be born again a person must believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior. Have you experienced this for yourself? If so, share your story. If not, would you like to now?
14. How can this group pray for you and our church this week? Pray for people to invite to your Church Table, Community Table, and Cultural Table.