Sorting

Come and See – Part 3 of 4 Pastor Thad Lanthripe September 2, 2018

Seek to get your spiritual questions answered. (John 3:1-11)

John 3:1-11

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him."

³ In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." ⁴ "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

⁵ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

⁹ "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. NIV 1984

3 Typical Channels to Verify Reality

- 1. Intellectual Does it all fit together logically?
- 2. Pragmatic Does this work? Does it work in changing me to be the person God wants me to be?
- 3. Emotional How do I feel about it? How does it feel when I am around Jesus and His people?

Lee Strobel Testimony - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8IE9Y4wudk

Sorting through your questions about God has eternal implications. "Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important."

- C.S. Lewis

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. New International Version 1984

Clarify what it means to be born again. (John 3:16)

- **BELIEVE** that Jesus is God's Son who died on the cross for their sins
- REPENT and turn away from doing life their own way independent from God
- CONFESS Jesus as Lord or Boss

Sort through your questions about a relationship with God by...

- Writing them down.
- Searching for answers in the Bible.
- Engaging in dialogue with a Christian friend.

Christian, dialogue with those sorting by seasoning your speech with salt. (Colossians 4:6)

Colossians 4:6

⁶ Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

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Ellie NICU picture



My Next Step today is to...

- ☐ Pick up and read the Case for Faith by Lee Strobel
- ☐ Sort with someone from Church in the Valley
- ☐ Get around Christians to see how Christianity works
- ☐ Prepare to give an answer
 - Intellectually
 - Pragmatically
 - Emotionally