

## Group Reflection Questions

1. Is following Jesus more comforting or invigorating to you?
2. What does the “kingdom of God” mean to you?
3. Have you been “born again?” If so, when did it happen? How?
4. Nicodemus’ religious traditions keep Jesus from understanding Jesus. Has your religious background ever kept you from growing in Christ? How?
5. Is there someone who God is leading you to talk with about Himself? Pray that God might open opportunities for you to share His love.

## **Where Does the Wind Blow?** **John 3:1-21**

Nicodemus isn’t sure about Jesus, so he comes in the cover of darkness. He is a man who is steeped in religion as a Pharisee, and Jesus’ radical miracles and teachings don’t fit into his understanding of God. Yet, he can’t resist what he is seeing and hearing.

Jesus wants to show Nicodemus the reality of the kingdom of God, but he first has to get around his religious traditions. This is going to be such a radical shift in Nicodemus’ understanding that it is going to be like being born a second time.

The good news of the kingdom of God is the reason Jesus was sent to earth—it’s a message of love not of condemnation. There is a motion to the message as Jesus typically refers to himself in John’s gospel as the one who was “sent by the Father.” John wants to be crystal clear in his gospel that Jesus was sent into the world so people might have eternal life (John 20:30-31).

As we read about Jesus mission, we must be reminded that we are part of his mission as he sends us out in to the world as he was sent out (John 17:18 & 20:21).