

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us.

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15 am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

UPCOMING EVENTS:

AGAPE THANKSGIVING DINNERS

Sunday, November 20th

Alternative: Sunday, November 13th

RSVP for a dinner by emailing:
connect@ourelement.org

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, November 12th 8am

All Men are invited to come here at Element.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

November 12th

9:30-3pm

Come shop for your Holidays and help support eMoms! Ministry.

REDEMPTION GROUPS

Begin February 3rd

Learn more and fill out an application at ourelement.org/redemption

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Do you have a *What in the World?* question you'd like us to answer?

Ask us at: www.ourelement.org/what? or via this QR Code with your phone:



WHAT! — IN THE — WORLD?

JOHN 3:1-15

ROMANS 3:10

ISAIAH 64:6

EPHESIANS 4:23-24

EZEKIEL 36 & 37

1 PETER 1:23

JOHN 16:21

FOUR **BORN AGAIN**
— JOHN 3:3 —

FOUR BORN AGAIN

— JOHN 3:3 —

If you have heard it once in churches you have heard it a hundred times, “you must be born again.” Most of the time that rings so familiar to us we don’t even pause to think about the ramifications of what that actually means. In John 3 it is refreshing that Nicodemus is so willing to put into words what we should all be saying when we hear Jesus’ words of being born again, “*How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?*”

Nicodemus is a member of the Jewish ruling council, the Sanhedrin, which is indicative of a few things:

1. He is old.
2. He was a man.
3. He was rich.
4. He was highly educated.

Nicodemus is part of the cultural elite and he is *not* seeking Jesus in this encounter. Nicodemus seeks Jesus out at night and says, “Rabbi, we know you’re a teacher.” These words lets us know he is representing ‘the establishment’ and the establishment is *against* Jesus.

Jesus’ words of being born again are directed to a heart and a life that thinks they have everything figured out. Nicodemus is the opposite of a broken or emotionally volatile person, he’s a Pharisee. Pharisees had hundreds of rules they were required to follow. Jesus’ call to the new birth is not a call to morality and religion; it’s a *challenge* to morality and religion. Jesus chooses the one person who doesn’t smoke, doesn’t drink, and doesn’t sleep around who is absolutely impeccable and says, “You have to born again.”

The message of the new birth is not a call to more morality and moral structure; it’s a challenge to it. Everyone starts at ground zero.

INTRODUCTION

Jesus had a thorough understanding of human nature. When we read the words of the exchange between Jesus and Nicodemus we must realize that His words are also meant for us as well. Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves because we are afraid to be honest with ourselves about how bad we really are, this is why Jesus relates salvation to being born again and starting fresh.

DISCUSSION

Imagine you had never heard the bible before and someone told you that you needed to be born again. How would you respond?

EXPLANATION

Timothy Keller says, “*There has never been a message more radically against morality and religion than the message of the new birth.*”

How would you define “new birth?”

How is new birth NOT a call to morality?

Is there a reason why people who have been ‘born again’ seem to be more moral?

APPLICATION – Read John 3:3-7

In what ways is new birth something everyone needs?

Have you ever seen yourself as better than someone else?

When/where/how?

MISSION

How do we tell people what citizenship in Heaven actually means?

How do we preach a message of being born again in a culturally relevant way?