

Oct. 22/23
take home

LIVECHRIST

LORD OF LIFE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*These are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah,
the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name. ~ John 20:31*

NICODEMUS

Text: John 3:1-21

Key Verse: *God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. ~ John 3:17*

Biblical Background: In his conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus speaks about the necessity of being born anew in order to enter the Kingdom of God. Jesus cites the story of Moses lifting up the bronze serpent in the wilderness (Numbers 21:4-9) as an analogy to the salvation which will come through his own crucifixion. As God saved the Israelites when the bronze snake was lifted up, so God saves us by lifting up Jesus on the cross.

Sermon Reflections

Text Messages

for personal and small group reflection

Do you think it's important that Nicodemus came to Jesus at night?

Is there an individual or group that would be the equivalent of Nicodemus in today's world?

If you are asked if you are "born again," what do you say?

What does it mean to "be born of water and the Spirit?"

In verse 9, Nicodemus asks, "How can this be?" If you could ask Jesus one question, what would it be?

John 3:16 is the most famous verse in the Bible. Why?

What is "eternal life?"

Why do we sometimes like darkness more than light?

Faith Spark

Share the story of your baptism. If you have pictures, find the photo album. Where were you baptized? Who were your Godparents? Who was the pastor who baptized you? Do you have any family traditions surrounding baptism? Make the sign of the cross on each other's foreheads and say "(name), child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever."

To read for next week: John 3:22-36

Read the text. As you read, jot down any questions or comments you have.

What do you wonder about? What catches your eye?

What effect do these words have on you personally?