

***HAPPY
NEW
YEAR
2025***



EVERY NATION
CHURCH • PENANG

The
CROSS

The CROSS

AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR FALLEN HUMANITY





PART 1
NICODEMUS

from CURIOUS to CONVERT



PART 2
THE CROWD

from FOLLOWERS to TRAITORS



PART 3
SIMON OF CYRENE

from BYSTANDER to CROSS-BEARER



EVERY NATION
SHUCHI PEKANG



PART 4
ROMAN CENTURION

from SKEPTIC to BELIEVER



PART 5
JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA

from PASSIVITY to MISSION



PART 6
MARY MAGDALENE

from SINNER to EVANGELIST



EVERY NATION
SHUCHI PEKANG



PART 1 NICODEMUS

from CURIOUS *to* CONVERT



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Now there was a man of the Pharisees named **Nicodemus**, a ruler of the Jews. ² This **man came to Jesus by night** and said to him, “**Rabbi**, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do **these signs** that you do unless God is with him.” ³ **Jesus** answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born again** he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

JOHN 3:1-3

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*‘Nicodemus said to him, “**How can a man be born when he is old?** Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?”’ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born of water and the Spirit**, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the **flesh** is flesh, and that which is **born of the Spirit** is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be **born again.**’ The **wind** blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is **born of the Spirit.**”*

JOHN 3:4-8

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***9 Nicodemus** said to him, “**How can these things be?**”*

***10 Jesus** answered him, “Are you the **teacher** of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? **11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?** **13 No one has ascended** into heaven except he who **descended** from heaven, the Son of Man. **14 And as Moses lifted up** the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be **lifted up,** **15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.**”*

JOHN 3:9-15

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WHO IS NICODEMUS?

*Now there was **a man** of the
Pharisees named Nicodemus,
a ruler of the Jews.*

John 3:1





WHAT IS IT ABOUT NICODEMUS?

*„This man came to Jesus
by night...”*

John 3:2a



CURIOUS CURIOSITY



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WHAT IS NICODEMUS CURIOUS ABOUT?



#1 : **THESE SIGNS?**

*2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “**Rabbi**, we know that you are a teacher come from God, **for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.**”*

John 3:2



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*Jesus turned water to wine
John 2:1-12*



*Jesus over-turned the table
John 2:13-22*

#2 : BORN AGAIN?

*3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born again** he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

*4 Nicodemus said to him, "**How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?**"*

John 3:3-4



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#2A : BORN OF WATER & SPIRIT?

*Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born of water** and **the Spirit**, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

John 3:5



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#2B : BORN OF FLESH & SPIRIT?

*‘That which is **born of the flesh is flesh**, and that which is **born of the Spirit is spirit**. ‘Do not **marvel** that I said to you, ‘You **must be born again**.’*

John 3:6-7



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#2C : WIND BLOWS?

*„The **wind** blows where it wishes,
and you hear its sound, but you do
not know where it comes from or
where it goes. So it is with everyone
who is **born of the Spirit.**”*

John 3:8



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CURIOSITY GETTING INTENSE

*9 Nicodemus said to him,
"How can these things
be?" 10 Jesus answered
him, "Are you the **teacher**
of Israel and yet you do **not**
understand these things?"*

John 3:9-10



#3 : EARTHLY VS HEAVENLY THINGS

*“Truly, truly, I say to you, we **speak** of what we **know**, and bear **witness** to what we have **seen**, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you **earthly things** and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you **heavenly things**?”*

John 3:11-12



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#4 : SERPENT VS SON OF MAN

¹³ *No one has **ascended** into heaven except he who **descended** from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And as Moses **lifted up the serpent** in the wilderness, so must **the Son of Man be lifted up**, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.*

John 3:13-15



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**HAPPY
CHINESE
NEW YEAR
2025**
YEAR OF THE
SNAKE



*From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. **And the people spoke against God and against Moses,** “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” **Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died.***

NUMBERS 21:4-9

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*And the people came to Moses and said, “**We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.**” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “**Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.**” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would **look** at the bronze serpent and **live**.*

NUMBERS 21:7-9

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WHAT COMES AFTER JOHN 3:15?





WHAT HAPPENED TO NICODEMUS AFTER THAT?

2 other accounts



#1 : NICODEMUS STOOD UP FOR JESUS

⁵⁰ **Nicodemus**, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, ⁵¹ **“Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?”**

⁵² They replied, **“Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee.”**

John 7:50-51

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#2 : NICODEMUS SHOWED UP AT THE CROSS

³⁹ **Nicodemus** also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about **seventy-five pounds** in weight. ⁴⁰ So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews.

John 19:39-42

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***NICODEMUS
STOOD UP & SHOWED UP
FOR JESUS***





***NICODEMUS
EMERGED FROM THE
DARKNESS AND
EMBRACED THE LIGHT***





***NICODEMUS MOVED FROM
A PLACE OF CURIOSITY TO
BECOMING A COURAGEOUS
CONVERT.***





PART 1
NICODEMUS

from CURIOUS *to* CONVERT



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APPLICATION QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION :

*Q1 : Which part of the message **speaks** to you the most ?*

*Q2 : How would you want to Encounter Jesus **from now onwards** ?*

*Q3 : Would you take this **courage** to **ENGAGE** a friend or family?*

