

Jesus is speaking to Nicodemus in the book of John about how we are first born in the flesh that is of water (as a newborn baby), yet we do not have the Spirit of God. We must choose to receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and this will give birth to the Spirit of God who is the Holy Spirit. A person must have the Holy Spirit to enter the Kingdom of God.

- John 3:5-7 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, 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.'
- 2 Cor 5:17 Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
- Eph 2:15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace,
- 1 Peter 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- 1 Peter 1:23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,
- 1 John 2:29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.
- 1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
- 1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

**Discussion Item 1:** *Why must we be born again to inherit the Kingdom of God?*

**Discussion Item 2:** *What areas of development in your life show evidence that you are born again?*

**Life Application:** *Share with another person how God has changed your life after being born again.*

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**Helpful Definition:**

kingdom – The rank, quality, state, or attributes of a king; royal authority; sovereign power; rule; dominion; monarchy. (*Webster*)

(a) The universe. (b) That spiritual realm of which God is the acknowledged sovereign. (c) The authority or dominion of God. (*Webster*)

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**Notes:**

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**Proverb 18:12** Before destruction the heart of a man is haughty, And before honor is humility. **Proverb 24:11** Deliver *those who* are drawn toward death, And hold back *those* stumbling to the slaughter.

**Psalms 40:3** He has put a new song in my mouth-Praise to our God; Many will see *it* and fear, And will trust in the LORD.