The New Birth and the Love of God

John 3:1-21 Key Verse: 3:3

- 1. Read verses 1-2. Who was Nicodemus? In what sense was he a successful man? When did he come to Jesus? What did he believe about Jesus?
- 2. Read verses 3-4. What did Jesus know about Nicodemus? (2:24,25; 3:3) Why had Nicodemus come to Jesus? How did Nicodemus respond? What does this show about him?
- 3. Read verses 3,5-8. According to Jesus, what did Nicodemus need to do in order to see and enter the kingdom of heaven? What did Jesus teach about the new birth? How is it like physical birth and how is it different?
- 4. What does it mean to be born again? How can a person be born again? (see Jn 1:12,13) (See 2Co 5:17; 1Pe 1:3,23; Eze 36:24-27)
- 5. Read verse 9-13. How did Nicodemus respond the second time? Why did he continue to ask "How"? Why he only think about physical and material things?
- 6. Why was Jesus uniquely qualified to tell about God's work in this world and about heavenly things also? (11,12,13) Why must we accept the word of testimony? Read verses 14-15. What do these verses teach about believing? What does God promise to those who believe?
- 7. Read verses 16-18. What was God's motive and purpose in sending his Son into the world? Who are those who are condemned and why are they condemned?
- 8. Read verses 19-21. What is the verdict? Why do some men not come to the light? What is the characteristic of those who are truth seekers? Is belief an intellectual matter? What clue do we find here about Nicodemus' unbelief?