

EPISODE 7 - INVITATIONS

Episode Review

Review the episode using the below questions as prompts.

- 1. Nicodemus asks Jesus, "How can someone be born when they are old?" How does Jesus respond? What is the significance of being born again? If you feel comfortable sharing how have you experienced being "born again?" If you haven't been 'born again,' would you like to do this today?
- 2. How do you recognize the effects of the Holy Spirit in your life?
- 3. What is the significance of this reference to the Psalm? Reflect on Nicodemus' journey to Jesus. How did he go from being a devout Pharisee to sitting in front of Jesus? Discuss with your Group the character qualities Nicodemus exhibited.
- 4. Did it surprise you how quickly Matthew agreed to follow Jesus, especially in comparison to Nicodemus' hesitation? Discuss these differences. If you are a follower of Jesus, discuss with your Group the beginning of your relationship with Jesus -- were you quick to follow Him or did you experience hesitation? How was this resolved?
- 5. Stories like that of the bronze snake can be shocking to us today. What caused the Israelites to suffer? How does this Old Testament reference relate to Jesus and his call to the disciples? Remember, Matthew was quick to answer the call of Jesus. What daily habits can you cultivate so that you obey as quickly as Matthew did? Discuss with your Group how you can grow in responding more quickly to Jesus' call. Would you be willing to share personal experiences or examples?

Character Review

Explore the biblical references for the highlighted characters in this episode.

- Jesus Matthew 9:9; Matthew 14:23; Mark 2:14; Mark 1:29-35; Mark 6:46-47; Luke 4:38-39; Luke 5:16, Luke 5:27-28; Luke 6:12; John 2:23; John 3:1-22
- Nicodemus John 3:1-21; John 7:50-51; John 19:39-42
- Matthew Matthew 9:9; Matthew 10:3; Mark 2:15-17; Luke 5:29; Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15; Acts 1:13
- Mary Magdalene Matthew 27:55-56; Matthew 27:61; Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 15:40; Mark 15:47; Mark 16:1-9; Luke 8:1-3; John 19:25; John 20:1-18