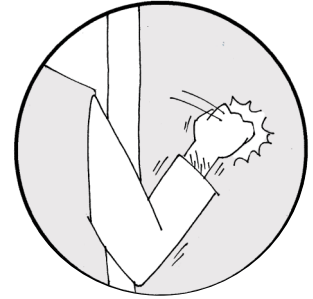


Lesson #4-20***New Life in the Spirit*****John 3:1-21****Key Verse:**

Indeed, 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

The Point:

Even those who have difficulty with Jesus' message and ministry have a place in God's story.

Unit Theme (January 28 - February 11):

Invitation to Abundant Life

Nicodemus Sensory Story

Experience the story of Nicodemus.

You will need:

- † Activity Sheet #4-20.A
- † Sugar cubes or small candies
- † Drinking straws

Instructions:

1. Gather supplies. **Today's story is about Jesus and a man named Nicodemus.** Encourage them to say Nick— ah— DEE—mus with you. **We are going to hear about that story. We will listen with more than our ears; we will also use our noses, mouths, and fingers to listen as well.**
2. Follow the directions on the attached activity sheet.

Preparation:

1. Before serving any food, always check with participants or caregivers for students who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.



Enjoy this? Check out *Living the Word: Kids (PK-2nd)* and other faith formation resources at SpiritAndTruthPublishing.com!

Nicodemus Visits Jesus

Experience the story of Nicodemus.

SAY	DO
One night when it was dark...	Turn out the lights or have students close their eyes.
...a man named Nicodemus came to Jesus and said, "I know God sent you because you can do lots of wonderful things." Jesus said, "To see God's kingdom, you have to be born again."	Ask students how well they can see in the dark or with their eyes closed. Not well! And Nicodemus did not understand well, either.
Nicodemus whispered, "How can I be born again? I am not a baby. I am old."	Whisper together: "How can I be born again?"
Jesus told him that he does not have to be born from his mother again, but by the work of the Holy Spirit. He told him: "The wind blows where it wants to blow, just like the Holy Spirit."	Give the students each a straw and let them blow through it.
Nicodemus still did not understand what Jesus was talking about.	Re-emphasize the darkness in the room.
So Jesus told Nicodemus the sweetest news of all: God loves the whole world so much that God sent Jesus. Because of that, everyone who believes in and trusts Jesus will live with God forever.	Pass out a sugar cube or small candy to each student and turn on the light. Tell students that turning on the light means that now Nicodemus could understand. When they finish, have them say, "God loves us so much that he sent Jesus!"

After telling the story one time through, try it by providing the sensory experience first and asking the students questions:

DO	ASK
Turn out the lights or ask the students to close their eyes.	When did Nicodemus come to Jesus? [<i>At night.</i>] Did he really understand who Jesus was? [<i>No.</i>]
Whisper.	What did Nicodemus ask Jesus? [<i>How can I be born again?</i>] Now did Nicodemus understand? [<i>No.</i>] He thought he was supposed to be like a baby and crawl back inside his mom, but Jesus meant being born again by the Holy Spirit.
Blow through the straws again.	What blows where it wants to blow? [<i>The wind and the Holy Spirit.</i>]
Show a sugar cube or piece of candy.	What was the sweet news that Jesus told Nicodemus? [<i>God loves the world so much that God sent Jesus for us.</i>]