

Jesus is in Jerusalem for the festival of Passover and we learn that “many believed in his name for they could see the signs he was doing.” (2.23)

Read John 3. 1-17

- What do we know about Nicodemus (who he is?) and his understanding of Jesus? (what he believes?)

Nicodemus is the only named Pharisee in the Gospel of John. He was a member of the Jewish ruling council and therefore a person of considerable influence, status and knowledge.

“He comes at night to speak with Jesus” (3.2). In the Gospel of John, when someone “comes to see Jesus,” it always raises at least the possibility that the person is “coming” in faith or giving allegiance in some way.

- What kind of faith does Nicodemus portrays? What is lacking or where does it fall short?

Eg. He is willing to call Jesus “teacher”; he comes by night because he does not want to be seen as a possible follower of Jesus; he does not understand new birth or Jesus origins and purposes.

Jesus was skilled in moving a person to think about what matters. He was a good listener too!

Verses 2-3 Nicodemus: **it is impossible** for someone to perform those signs without God being with them – Jesus: **it is impossible** to see the kingdom of God unless...

Verses 4-5 Nicodemus: surely **none can enter** a second time ... to be born – Jesus: **no one can enter** the kingdom of God unless

Verse 9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus final question gives Jesus to opportunity to speak about his identity and his work (v10-16)

Think of someone you know who is open to faith. What are his/her question(s)? How can you help him/her to move a little bit further? Where do you need help yourself?

Read Numbers 21. 6-9 & John 3.16-17

- How does the story in Numbers and the verse of John 3.16 help you speak about what Jesus did on the Cross?

Take a time to pray for your friends, family members and neighbours. Ask God to give you opportunities to speak about your faith.

Lord Jesus, thank you for the Holy Spirit who is constantly at work in the hearts and the minds of those I know. Help me to be ready to share my faith and help me to hear their questions. Thank you for those who have helped me in my faith journey. Amen