

Sermon Discussion Guide

Jan. 11 & 12, 2025 "How Can We Be Born Again?" John 3:3-6

Life's biggest questions deserve thoughtful answers. In this new sermon series, we'll explore foundational truths about faith, God, and our place in his creation. Together, we'll seek biblical wisdom to navigate life's complexities, deepen our understanding, and strengthen our trust in the God who holds all answers.

PRAY & CONNECT

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation. Ask God for wisdom and discernment and trust him to guide you. Take time to recap the message or view it on HopeOnline.tv. Did you have any ah-ha moments where you felt convicted, compelled, or inspired during the sermon? What's been on your mind this week? Have you been able to apply the message to your everyday life?

GROW

Read Genesis 2:10-14 - "The Man and Woman in Eden"

- What does the river in Eden reveal about God's care for creation? How does this reflect his desire for abundance in your life?
- How does the river flowing out to water the earth symbolize God's ongoing provision for all people? In what ways can you share the abundance God has given you with others?
- How does the imagery of the Garden of Eden help you understand your dependence on God as the source of life? Where do you see evidence of God's care in your daily life?
- What practical steps can you take to better rely on God's provision and reflect his generosity in your relationships and community?

Read John 3:1-8 - "Jesus and Nicodemus"

- How does Nicodemus' initial confusion about being "born again" reflect struggles in understanding spiritual truths? How have you experienced similar questions or doubts in your faith journey?
- What emotions arise when you think about being "born from above"? How does this idea challenge or inspire your faith?
- What does it mean to be "born of water and Spirit"? How does this shape your understanding of baptism and new life in Christ?
- How can you practically live out your identity as someone who has been born from above? How might this transformation influence your interactions with others?

Read Ezekiel 47:1-12 - "The River of Healing"

- How does Ezekiel's vision of the river flowing from the temple offer hope to those in spiritually dry or broken places? How can this imagery speak into challenges you or others are facing?
- How does this river's healing and life-giving power demonstrate God's ability to restore what seems lost or desolate? Where do you see God working in this way in your life or the world?
- What steps can you take to embrace God's healing and restoration in your life? How can you help others experience this renewal?
- How does Ezekiel's vision encourage you to trust God's promises, even when they seem distant or difficult to understand?

APPLY

Pick one of the applications below to put into practice this week ...

- Reflect on areas of your life where you feel spiritually dry or in need of God's renewal. Spend time in prayer, asking God to fill you with his living water and refresh your soul.
- Reach out to someone who may be feeling spiritually "dry" and offer them encouragement, support, or prayer this week. Share how God's living water has refreshed your own life.
- If you've never been baptized or feel called to reaffirm your baptism, take time to explore this step as a meaningful way to embrace God's gift of new life.

