Christ Community Church Bible Study
Drs. Carl and Jeanne King
Week 5—The New Birth, New Life and Renewed Dedication

Text: John 3

Study Outline

I. The New Birth (vss 1-8)
   a. Nicodemus came at night to inquire of Jesus (vs 1)
      i. Nicodemus was a Pharisee
      ii. Nicodemus was a ruler of the Jews— A member of the Sanhedran, the highest legal, legislative and judicial body among the Jews (NET Bible note)
      iii. Why do you think Nicodemus came to Jesus at night?
   b. Nicodemus opens his inquiry of Jesus with statements affirming his understanding of Jesus’ identity
      i. Rabbi (vs 2)
      ii. You are a teacher come from God (vs 2)
      iii. No one can do these signs (miracles) unless God is with him. (vs 2)
      iv. Was Nicodemus a seeker or a skeptic?
   c. Jesus response (vs 3):
      i. “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
      ii. Reflection questions:
         1. What did Jesus mean by “born again”?
         2. What did Jesus mean by “the kingdom of God?”
   d. Nicodemus needed clarity (vs 4)
   e. Jesus expounds (vs 5-8)
      i. Unless one is “born of water and the Spirit” he cannot enter the kingdom of God.(vs 5)
      ii. “That which is born of flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit” (vs 6)
      iii. Jesus compares the move of the Spirit in a believer’s rebirth to that of the movement of the wind. What are the potential implications of this analogy?
II. The New Life (vss 9-21)
   a. Nicodemus needs more clarity (vs 9)
   b. Jesus points him to a spiritual interpretation vs an earthly interpretation (vs 12)
   c. Jesus provides a correlation with a type of deliverance from sin found in Moses’s time with the deliverance He is bringing (vss 14-15)
   d. The crux of the gospel of Jesus Christ (vs 16-21)
      i. The promise of new life found in the love of God (vs 16)
      ii. The purpose of the Christ coming – not to condemn the world but that the world could be saved. (vs 17)
      iii. The power of Christ’s coming—our belief or faith in Him (vs 18)
      iv. The paradox of Christ’s coming – light has come into the world but people loved darkness rather than light (vs 19-20)
      v. The practice of the gospel – in this new life, do the truth by coming into the light to show deeds done in God (vs 21)

III. The Renewed Declaration (22-36)
   a. John was baptizing in Aenon (vss 22-24)
      i. Aenon was in Judea, near Salim
      ii. Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea and baptized people also.
   b. The dispute over baptism (vss 25-26)
      i. According to vs 25 what was the dispute about?
      ii. According to vs 26, what else could the dispute have been about?
   c. John’s (re)declaration of Jesus (vss 27-36)

IV. Application and Implications
   a. What is the major application of the text to our lives today?
   b. What are key implications for living this new life in Christ?