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## Born-Again Identity

**John 3:1-8** <sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs You are doing if God were not with him.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus replied, “Truly, truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.” <sup>4</sup>“How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Can he enter his mother’s womb a second time to be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>Flesh is born of flesh, but spirit is born of the Spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be amazed that I said, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes. You hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” (BSB)

### I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A. Nicodemus was a Pharisee who came to Jesus at night to be taught by Him. V. 1
- B. Nicodemus couldn’t get beyond the understanding that Jesus was a teacher sent from God. V. 2
- C. Jesus introduced the spiritual experience known as being born-again. V. 3
- D. Again, Nicodemus couldn’t understand spiritual truths without being illuminated by the Holy Spirit.
- E. The word “born” is the Greek word that is used when a man fathers a child. V. 3, 5-8
- F. Jesus then clarifies that there is a difference between a person’s natural birth and their spiritual birth.
- G. Jesus illustrates this event by referring to the wind. V. 7

### II. Here are some important applications of this passage.

- A. We are to make disciples of Jesus not of ourselves.
- B. Don’t try to get someone’s theology straight until they are introduced to Jesus Christ.
- C. No one can be saved through teaching alone. They must experience new birth after being taught.
- D. A born-again person will show evidence of being reborn.