

Nicodemus A Computer Workshop Lesson "NIC @ NIGHT: Breaking the Code"

Options for using this printout:

1) Computer Quiz Life Application:

After the kids complete the Fall of Jericho quiz, read the story again, and then delve into the Life Application of the passage. **Many of the questions in my Jericho set (copied below) suggest life application questions.** I think **the story is most effective when we substitute ourselves for Nicodemus**, and consider our excuses, why we are embarrassed by our faith, or afraid to take risks, and how I can be born of the spirit instead of the flesh.

2) No Computer ~ Quiz Game Show (done verbally)

Edit on the fly as you host your own quiz show. Split into no more than three teams and arrange them around your podium like a game show. Explain the rules, invite someone to keep score on the board, and begin asking the quiz questions, one team at a time. Since you are reading the questions, reduce the number of possible answers you share down to just two or three instead of four. This will make for less confusion since they are only hearing the questions. Award 3 points for the correct answer. If they give you the wrong answer, ask the next team for the correct answer and award 1 point for getting it right. Adjust rules and game-play to suit age and time.

Nicodemus Quiz Game: Includes 17 Clues, 4 Answer Choices/due, and *Teaching Points*.

Clue 101: Nicodemus was a member of this strict religious group. They followed the Law of Moses TO THE LETTER, and often argued with each other and Jesus about the right way of following God.

Sadducees

Pharisee

Herodians

Roman

Clue 102: This man was a member of the Jewish ruling class and a member of the Sanhedrin...the Temple's Ruling Council. He became a follower of Christ at great risk to himself, and helped bury Jesus.

Saul

Peter

Judas

Nicodemus

Clue 103: This phrase describes the man's position of authority, -the man who had come to visit Jesus and ask him questions. Different translations of the passage express it differently.

Leader of the Jews

Governor of Judea

King of the Jews

Chief Priest

Clue 104: The time of day that this very important man came to visit Jesus in the third chapter of John's Gospel.

Morning

noon

night

midnight

Night would have given the man privacy and secrecy. What was he afraid of? Night is also a time of Spiritual Darkness which needs the light of God. How was he in spiritual darkness?

Clue 105: This Hebrew word means "teacher". It was a title of honor and respect, which considering who was giving it to Jesus, really says something neat.

"prophet"

"Rabbi"

"Lord"

"Christ"

"Rabbi" is the Hebrew word for "teacher". The man was giving Jesus respect.

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Clue 106: The Jews were looking for these. They were events that would tell them if Jesus really was the Messiah.

signs

wonders

miracles

resurrection

Jesus was giving signs that he was the Messiah, but some people didn't accept the signs. What was their problem?

Clue 107: This was Jesus #1 subject. It is the place where God's will is done. It is the thing we hope will come. And Jesus said it was already here, perhaps as small as a mustard seed.

Heaven

Salvation

Kingdom of God

New Jerusalem

"Thy Kingdom Come! Thy Will Be Done!" Jesus spoke more about God's Kingdom than any other subject. It's something we can see if we have God's spirit within us.

Clue 108: Lots of debate about how to translate this phrase. Some translate it "born again".

second resurrection

the resurrection of the dead

born from above

born from God

Nicodemus ask how you can be born a second time, but Jesus talks about being born from 'above' --from heaven, from God in the spirit and through water.

Clue 109: This phrase suggests that part of the change we need in our lives comes through our baptism... giving ourselves to God.

born in baptism

born from above

born of water

born again

Notice how Jesus talks about TWO types of birth in verse 5 of John 3. We need two things from God to be able to see the Kingdom.

Clue 110: This is the second of two types of "birth" or "rebirth" that Jesus suggests a person needs to be able to see the Kingdom of God. "Born of water and _____."

God

faith

blood

spirit

Being "born of spirit" suggests that we depend on GOD to give us our rebirth, our renewal. It is a gift. We don't make it happen.

Clue 111: This weird phrase is Jesus' way of saying that just being "alive" isn't enough to make you a spiritual person who can understand God. Here's how he said it: "What is born of the _____ is (only) _____".

flesh is flesh

spirit is spirit

world is not enough

woman is of this world

"What is born of the flesh is flesh" said Jesus. He says this to the man to explain why the man can't yet see who Jesus really is. The man needs to be more than just a good man. He needs God's Spirit.

Clue 112: In this phrase, once again Jesus is pointing out that you need God's spirit within you in order to understand Jesus' teachings, and know who he really is. "What is born of the _____ is _____."

water is water

flesh is able to see God

spirit is spirit

light is life

"What is born of the spirit is spirit" ...it's an interesting phrase Jesus spoke! He's saying that your spiritual insights and strength come straight from God the Spirit.

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Clue 113: This is something that blows and you cannot control it. It can fill you so that you understand God, but it can bypass others.

God The Word understanding **wind blows** (spirit)

What other famous story at the beginning of the Books of Acts begins with a mighty wind blowing the disciples out into the crowd?

Clue: 114 Jesus has now said this phrase or idea several times, so it must be important! When you are born of this, you sometimes do not know where it comes from or where it will lead you.

born of the spirit born of the flesh born of the water born in the faith

How does a person become "born of the spirit of God"??

Clue 115: This crazy long phrase from Jesus is his way of saying, "I've spoken the truth, but they didn't want to accept it." He says of the Jews, "we testified to what we have seen, yet you do not receive

_____."

our words **our testimony** a word I say my warnings

"Testimony" is a courtroom word, meaning, Jesus had spoken in truth with authority, but the leaders rejected his testimony as false.

Clue 116: This is a famous TITLE that was sometimes used by Jesus HIMSELF to describe who he was. It comes from the Old Testament, and it is like saying "He came as one of us" or was "sent by God to be THE human example to us".

Son of God **Son of Man** Christ the Savior Emmanuel

Jesus refers to himself as "Son of Man". Whereas, "Son of God" is usually a title that other people used to describe Jesus. "Son of Man" can mean "a great godly human being" but has also come to mean "divine".

Clue 117: This strange image comes from the Old Testament. Moses erected this symbol ON A POLE to heal the people from disease. It later became the logo for the medical profession. Jesus is calling himself a HEALER. His cross will lift him up to heal us.

a Pillar of Fire the Ten Commandments the **serpent** in the wilderness his staff to the people

Numbers 21:8 has the story of Moses putting a snake on a pole during the wilderness journey to the Promised land to cure the people. Jesus sees himself as God's cure for our sin.