

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons

John 3:16

Sunday, April 9, 2017

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. How did John describe Nicodemus?

Coming at night, he may have been fearful. He was a Pharisee. He was a member of the religious ruling class, the Sanhedrin. He was “the” teacher in Israel.

2. What did Nicodemus believe about Jesus? Give a reason for your answer.

He believed Jesus had come from God and God was with Him, because of the signs Jesus performed.

3. What must happen before someone can see the kingdom of God?

They must be born again.

4. How did Jesus say someone could enter the kingdom of God? What does His answer mean to you?

They must be born of water and the Spirit.

If water does not mean the water a child is in within his mother’s womb before he is born; then, they must repent [and be baptized (when possible)], and by grace through faith they must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. See especially John 3:16 and Acts 2:38. [Note: Different denominations might interpret these verses differently with respect to baptism and its meaning. Without looking for possible exceptions to the rule, the best way to proceed is Jesus’ way whether we understand Him completely or not. Salvation is always by grace through faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.]

5. Who has eternal life? Why do they have eternal life?

Those who believe in Jesus. Because God so loved the world that He sent His one and only Son, Jesus.

© Copyright 2017 L.G. Parkhurst, Jr. You may reprint or reproduce
Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further for not-for-profit use.