



Spiritual Birth Robert Morris

Focus All of eternity is based on our spiritual birth. Jesus calls us to examine our salvation experience. If you've been born again, you've made a confident and deliberate surrender to Jesus Christ.

Fun What was your favorite birthday celebration and why?

Review Key Scripture: John 3:1–7; 2 Corinthians 13:5

1. You must be born spiritually.

John 3:5

Nicodemus was a Jewish Pharisee who believed in God, prayed, memorized Scripture, fasted, and tithed. He even believed Jesus was the Messiah.

However, Jesus explained to Nicodemus that he needed to be born again. The spiritual birth that changes our eternal destination is a surrender of our life to God, accepting the free gift of salvation through Jesus Christ.

2. Many people have not been born spiritually.

Matthew 7:13–14, 21–23; Hosea 9:11

Many people are on the road to destruction while few are on the road to life.

There are even people who believe Jesus is God but still do not know Him or live for Him. If a person has not been born spiritually, Jesus will say, "I never knew you." Seeds can be planted and grow, like the conviction or realization that we are sinners and need a Savior, but the spiritual birth happens when we commit and surrender to Christ.

3. How can I know I've been born spiritually?

1 John 5:13

God's Word says that we can know if we truly have been born again. We're born

again when we admit we are sinners; ask Jesus to forgive our sins; and give our whole heart, soul, and mind over to the Lord in surrender. As a result, we'll desire to seek Him and His ways, knowing we are His for eternity.

Group Dynamics Idea People enjoy knowing they're remembered on their birthday. Since this weekly discussion involves birthdays, ask your group members to write down their birthday when they sign in and recognize the group members with birthdays each week as they appear on the calendar.

Discuss

1. Pastor Robert described the difference between believing Jesus is God and surrendering your life to Him. Describe the difference and misconceptions people may have regarding salvation.
2. What was the biggest change in your life that took place when you gave control to God?
3. Did you struggle with knowing you were saved? Would you share your experience?
4. Read Matthew 7:13–14. How does it make you feel to know that many people are going to hell and few are going to heaven? What can you do to share the Good News with others?
5. Do you have a friend or family member who is in the spiritual “pregnancy” stage, having seeds of truth planted in them, but not committed to Christ? If you feel comfortable, share their first name with the group while one person makes a list. Pray together for those who are not yet born again.

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Growing up in church or being active in God's work doesn't mean you have been born again.
- Jesus said there are many who are not saved.
- We can know if we have truly been born again.

- We're born again when we commit to give God control of our lives and live for Him.
- Consider acknowledging Jesus Christ as Lord and surrendering your life to Him.

Prayer

We want to give you an opportunity to submit your life to God and be born again through Jesus Christ. Now is the perfect time to begin a new life that lasts for eternity. Please consider praying this prayer out loud together.

Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God, that You died on the cross and rose from the dead. Please forgive me of my sin. I choose to turn away from sin and follow You. I receive You as my Lord and personal Savior and surrender my life to You. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

New Leader Tip Using name tags when facilitating small groups is a wonderful tool to aid in fellowship and connection. A person is more likely to approach another if they know their name. As a leader, you will be focused on asking questions, watching the time, finding a Bible verse, and looking through your notes for the next topic. You can easily forget a name. Provide name tags and make your life easier and enhance connection within your group.