

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: ALent2x2017

Text: John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus **by night** and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

3 Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, **no one can see the kingdom of God** without being born from above.” 4 Nicodemus said to him, “**How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?**”

5 Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 **What is born of the flesh is flesh**, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ 8 **The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.** So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” 10 Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11 “Very truly, I tell you, **we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen**; yet **you do not receive our testimony**. 12 **If** I have told you about earthly things and **you do not believe**, *[then]* how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has **ascended into heaven** except the one who **descended from heaven**, the Son of Man.

14 And just as Moses **lifted up the serpent in the wilderness**, so must the Son of Man be **lifted up**, 15 that **whoever believes in him** may have eternal life. 16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who **believes in him** may not perish but may have eternal life. 17 “Indeed, **God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.**

Eye - I/S, Math - I, Body - I, Music - I

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic	Vs 16. Apollymi - utterly perish, be cut off entirely Vs 17 - sozo = rescue, heal, preserve Aion (eternal) - from which we get “eon” e.g.	The English words perish and save have lost some of their punch. Substitute one of the synonyms and present these verses with a much larger, almost apocalyptic meaning. Give the phrase “eternal	A literal translation from the Greek could be: “Thus, indeed God takes such pleasure in the created order that he offers the Unique Son so that everyone trusting in him will not be cut off

	<p>a very long time.</p> <p>Zoe = life that encompasses all of being; much more than biology</p>	<p>life” a different sound, too. I like to use “life of the ages” - it has an eternal quality to it that also suggests the biological life we now live is infused with much more than we can perceive. Until we see it!</p>	<p>entirely, but hold and be held by the life of the ages.”</p>
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p>	<p>Came by night</p>	<p>For anyone who drives, daylight is much preferred to night time driving - especially when it rains or is foggy.</p> <p>Nic feels like he is driving on a foggy, rainy night.</p> <p>I was driving home from work one night after a very long day. It was foggy and rainy and I was exhausted. I <i>woke up</i> sometime later, still driving, and found myself where I wasn't just a moment ago and in a deep fog, literally and figuratively, and very disoriented! That must be how Nic felt. --D2--</p>	<p>While reading this passage, dim the lights in the sanctuary.</p>
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p>		<p>When I was in college I tested out of several classes through AP credit. Some were one semester instead of the whole year, so I ended up out of sequence for a number of subjects. At one point I was taking a class and its prerequisite at the same time. Somehow no one stopped me from doing this. Consequently, I felt like Nicodemus when Jesus says, “If you don't understand these basics, how can you hope to understand the advanced topics?” --D2--</p>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>Vs. 9 - How can these things be? Quantum physics weirdness - Particles don't decide if they are acting like waves or particles until they are measured. Until then reality doesn't exist.</p>	
Body - Kinesthetic	Nicodemus has some specific thoughts on his mind - no one can do "these signs" - so maybe this is why he is up at night. His brain is running at top speed and he can't sleep.	Until Nicodemus can get answers to his questions, he will not be able to rest. The problem is the answers to his questions don't exist - until he asks about them. See Math	
Musical		Vs. 11 - Trying to understand the music theory of a Mozart symphony when you still don't quite get "Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do"	Do Re Mi
Natural			
People - Interpersonal		<p>Richard Heitzenrater, a Wesley scholar from Duke Divinity School</p> <p>"For [Charles] Wesley, Grace is what God is doing at the depths of your life by the power of the Holy Spirit."</p> <p>Being born from above is letting the Holy Spirit do what God wants done at the depths of our life.</p> <p>~ Alyce McKenzie, Edgy Exegesis</p>	
Self - Intrapersonal	Often, it really helps to substitute the word "trust" for "believe" when reading John's gospel. Verse 16 is a good place to try it.		What does it mean to trust Jesus?