

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: ALent2x2020

Text: John 3:1-17

Nicodemus Visits Jesus

3 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, 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.**

Word - I, Eye - B, Math - B, People - S

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
Word - Verbal/Linguistic MWD <i>Strengths Characteristics Expression</i>	Metaphors are confusing (commentary here and in MATH , BODY , and PEOPLE by Rhonda Crutcher at <i>A Plain Account</i>)	Vs. 4 – ... taking metaphors and idioms literally... Here’s a video that’s kind of lame but a fair attempt. See also, the <i>Amelia Bedilia</i> series of books.	

		Here's a video of someone reading the first. And here is a list of international idioms that get lost in translation.	
<p>Eye - Visual/Spatial</p> <p>MWD</p> <p><i>Strengths</i> <i>Characteristics</i> <i>Expression</i></p>		There's this classic joke about seeing a fish sticker on a car....	Bring in some religious bumper stickers. Do a little evaluation. Some may have a fair thought in them, many will not. The point will be, though, that trying to encapsulate the message of Christ in such short form is as likely to miss the point and cause confusion as it is to win any converts. See also WORD and PEOPLE
<p>Math - Logical/Mathematical</p> <p>D2</p> <p><i>Strengths</i> <i>Characteristics</i> <i>Expression</i></p>	The author of John often asks his readers to hold two contradictory things to be true at the same time.	Many people seem to have a similar experience of math as Nic does to Jesus' pronouncements. WHAT? What does that mean? How can that be?	Read or display some classic algebra word problems and see what sort of reaction you get. Here are some more.
<p>Body - Kinesthetic</p> <p><i>Strengths</i> <i>Characteristics</i> <i>Expression</i></p>	Physical AND spiritual birth are necessary for entering God's kingdom		
<p>Musical</p> <p><i>Strengths</i> <i>Characteristics</i> <i>Expression</i></p>		God So Loved the World , John Stainer, composer God So Loved (Acoustic) Hillsong	Write a short poem/hymn that captures the story.
<p>Natural</p> <p><i>Strengths</i> <i>Characteristics</i> <i>Expression</i></p>			
<p>People - Interpersonal</p>	The reality of the		Write a skit where

<p>D2</p> <p><i>Strengths</i> <i>Characteristics</i> <i>Expression</i></p>	<p>Gospel is complicated, and cannot be easily fit into our neat little human boxes.</p>		<p>Nicodemus meets the Rainbow Wig John 3:16 guy, and he's like, "What are you?" See below for a starter. Then develop the conversation to fit your own sermon.</p> <p>(The story of Rainbow Man is surprising, sad, and a warning about the dangers of really bad theology!)</p>
<p>Self - Intrapersonal</p> <p><i>Strengths</i> <i>Characteristics</i> <i>Expression</i></p>			<p>How have you experienced the love of God in Jesus Christ? Does it feel like a new life? If not, spend some time in prayer seeking the life from above Jesus names here.</p>

RAINBOW **stands with John 3:16 sign**

NIC **approaches, cautiously, curiously** Hi. Um, what's this?

RAINBOW Oh, hi. I'm witnessing.

NIC Witnessing what?

RAINBOW No, not what. I'm witnessing to Jesus.

NIC Oh, really? How's that work exactly?

RAINBOW Well, I dress like this to get people's attention, then I show them my sign.

NIC Uh-huh. And who is John... and what happens at quarter after 3?

RAINBOW No, man. John 3-16! It's the greatest verse in the Bible! It's the Gospel in miniature! You know - "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

NIC Oooohhh, yeah. I remember when he said that. Totally weird.

RAINBOW What do you mean "weird"? It's totally awesome that God saves us!

NIC Oh, yes, of course. But at the time, it sure didn't make any sense. Just baffled me completely.

RAINBOW What, didn't you ever read the Bible?

NIC Read it? I'm IN it! I'm Nicodemus, the guy Jesus said that to the first time!

RAINBOW NO WAY!!

NIC Oh yeah. That was me.

RAINBOW That must have been amazing!

NIC Well, like I said, it just confused the snot out of me. See, I came to Jesus to try to get some straight answers from him about what he was teaching and doing, so we could validate his ministry, you know? And he hit me with all this stuff about being born again.

RAINBOW **very enthusiastically** Hey, I'M born again!

NIC **less enthusiastically** Yes, ... **tossling R's wig** ... I'm sure you are.