### I. GOD LOVES YOU and desires that you:

**1. Have eternal life with Him.**

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

**2. Have an abundant and meaningful life.**

“Jesus said, ‘… I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly.’” John 10:10

But most people aren’t experiencing a meaningful life and aren’t sure that they have eternal life because…

### II. Man has a SIN problem that SEPARATES him from GOD.

**1. Everyone has sinned. “**… For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God….” Romans 3:23

**2. The penalty for sin is DEATH. “**For the wages of sin is death….” Romans 6:23 (also ESV, NIV)

The Bible talks about two kinds of death. The first death is **physical**. The second death is **spiritual** or eternal separation from God.

“But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and **all liars**, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the **Second Death**.” Revelation 21:8

**Since sin separates man from God, what is the solution to his problem?**

### III. JESUS CHRIST is God’s ONLY way to heaven.

**1. He is the ONLY way. “**Jesus said… ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.’” John 14:6

**2. He COMPLETELY PAID the penalty of your sins.**

“When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all your sins.” Colossians 2:13For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God….” 1 Peter 3:18

**IV. The RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST assures us of Eternal Life.**

**1.Jesus died for our sins, He was buried, and He was raised on the third day**

“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.” I Corinthians 15:3-4,

**2. His resurrection proves that He is the Son of God, the Messiah, the only Savior.**

“… Concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord….” Romans 1:3-4

**3. Jesus promises Eternal Life.**

“Jesus said … ‘I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die….’” John 11:25-26

**However, merely knowing what Jesus Christ has done for us is not enough.**

### IV. We must place our FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST to save us.

**1. You are saved by God’s grace through faith in Jesus Christ.**

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the GIFT OF GOD - not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

To be saved by faith means to **TRUST IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE** to save you. Good works are not the means to salvation; rather, they are the byproducts or evidence of your salvation.

**2. Prove the sincerity of your faith by turning away from a life of sin.**

“I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds. A person who genuinely asks for forgiveness will seek to change his ways.” Acts 26:20 (NIV)

God knows we are not perfect, but the sincerity of our faith will move us to live lives that show our gratitude to God for His free gift of heaven.

**You can pray this simple prayer to express your faith in Jesus Christ and to receive Him into your heart as your Lord and Savior. You only have to pray this prayer once, but with sincerity, because when He enters your life, he will never leave you.**

**PRAYER:** ***Lord, Jesus Christ… I admit I am sinner, I confess and I repent of all my sins. I believe by faith that You, Jesus, died for my sins, You were buried and You rose again from the dead. I claim Your promise of forgiveness and accept Your gift of eternal life. I thank You for dying on the cross for my sins, I thank You for forgiving my sins and I thank You for giving me eternal life. Amen.***



**What is eternal life in Jesus?** John 3:1-2 says, *"Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, 'Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.'"* Nicodemus was a Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin council. He was powerful, very successful, and a scholar. But, he was also humble; he was willing to learn from Jesus and spoke highly of him, calling Him Rabbi.

Nicodemus wanted to go to heaven, so he asked Jesus how. Jesus answered, *"Truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God"* (John 3:3).

Jesus knows the hearts of men. John 2:24-25 says, *"…He knew all men, and because He did not need anyone to testify concerning man, for He Himself knew what was in man."* So, He knew there was hunger in the heart of Nicodemus, who asked, *"How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he"* (John 3:4)? Jesus answered, *"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit again he cannot see the kingdom of God"* (John 3:5).

**What is "born of water and Spirit?"** John 3:7 says, *"That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."* Jesus is saying you must be born physically first and born again, spiritually. John 3:7-8 says, *"Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."* Do you think Nicodemus understood this?

Notice the prayer of the criminal on the cross when he was about to die: “Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" And He said to him, “Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise” (Luke 23:42-43). The kingdom of God is sometimes called Paradise. That kingdom is both here and now. You will see the kingdom of God when God is King of your life; the kingdom is in your heart. But the Bible says that someday, you and I will experience the real kingdom of God, a place where there’s no more pain, death, crying, or sorrow, where Jesus is King (Revelation 21).

**What is born again?** Ephesians 5:26 says, *"So that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word."* “Her” refers to the church. “Water” refers to the Word of God. So, the Word of God will sanctify you. Titus 3:5 says, *"He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit."*

Nicodemus thought he was saved. He trusted in his own efforts and good works, in going to church and being sincere. He did not understand the meaning of faith in Jesus and did not experience the Spirit of God in his life. He asked Jesus, *"How can these things be"* (John 3:9)? The answer is in 1 Peter 1:23; *"For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring Word of God."*

A CCF Weekly Bulletin

**August 16, 2009 197th Edition**

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**John 3:16**

16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. **(**[**ESV**](http://www.esv.org)**)**

**What is preventing people from being born again?** John 3 tells us it’s their moral life. Coming to Jesus is a moral decision with willingness to change. And when you receive the Spirit of God, your life is transformed. Did Nicodemus change? Yes; he understood. Later, he defended Jesus against those who wanted to kill him (John 7:50-51). When Jesus died, Nicodemus helped give him a decent burial (John 19:39-40).

**How do you know there are such things as the Spirit of God and being born again?** John 3:8 says, *"The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."* You don’t see the wind, but you know that it is there. How do you know that the Spirit of God is real? How will people see the reality of Jesus? Look at your lives and see the transformation. To be born again is not a religion or a denomination, but something that God will do in your life. When you surrender your life to Jesus, you have a relationship with Him. To be born again means that you receive the Spirit of God, the life of Christ, in your heart, and you are no longer the same. It is something you cannot do yourself; you allow Christ to do it for you.

**How can you be born again of the Spirit?** Look at Jesus. All of us are dying. The poison of sin is in our blood. We need a cure. The Bible says that the payment for sin is death. Jesus took your place and paid for your sin by dying on the cross. The most famous verse of the Bible, John 3:16, was addressed to Nicodemus, who studied the law given by God in the Old Testament. But the God of the Old Testament and the God of the New Testament are one and the same. It was God who took the initiative to send Jesus to die for us. This shocked Nicodemus who believed that God loved only good people. Jesus said, *“God so loved the world.”*

**What must you do?** *"Whoever believes in Him will not perish"* (John 3:16). God knows your need. He cares for you. He wants you to be born again. Jesus is life. If you want to experience being born again, accept God's solution. The choice is yours. God will never turn you down.

## John 3:1-21

3:1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” 3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” 4 Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?” 5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, 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 the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? 11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And 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, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 19 And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. 21 But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.” ([ESV](http://www.esv.org))

### CCF Vision Statement

Our vision is to see a movement of millions of committed followers of the Lord Jesus Christ meeting in small groups, transforming: Lives, Families, Communities and Nations for the Glory of God!

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… And counting!

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| **Branch** | **Time** |
| St. Francis Square 5th Floor Auditorium | 8:00-9:00 A.M. |
| 10:00-11:30 A.M. |
| 12:00-1:30 P.M. |
| 3:00-5:00 P.M. (Filipino) |
| 6:00-7:30 P.M. |
| [Alabang](http://www.ccf-alabang.org) | 8:00-9:30 A.M. |
| 10:00-11:30 A.M. |
| 12:00-1:30 P.M. |
| 3:30-5:00 P.M. (Filipino) |
| [Cagayan de Oro](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting#cdo) | 8:00 A.M & 10:00 A.M. |
| 4:30-6:00 P.M. |
| [Cavite](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting#cavite) | 8:00-9:30 A.M. |
| 10:00-11:30 A.M. |
| [Cebu](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting/ccf-cebu) | 10:00 A.M. & 4 P.M.(Ayala Cinema 2) |
| [Davao](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting/ccf-davao) | 10:00-11:30 A.M. |

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| **Branch** | **Time** |
| [Isabela](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting#isabela) | 9:00-11:00 A.M. |
| Alanib | 8:30-10:00 AM |
| [Malaybalay](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting#malaybalay) | 8:00 – 9:30 AM (Visayan) |
| 10:00 A.M. -12:00 NN |
| [Malolos](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting#malolos) | 7:30-9:30 A.M. |
| 9:30-11:30 A.M. |
| [Marikina](http://www.ccfmarikina.com) | 9:30-11:30 A.M. |
| [Marilao](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting#marilao) | 8:00-10:00 A.M. |
| [Pampanga](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting#pampanga) | 10:00-12:00 A.M. |
| [Pasig](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting#pasig) | 8:00-10:00 A.M. |
| 3:30-5:30 P.M. |
| [Singapore](http://www.ccf-singapore.org) | 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 NN |
| [Taytay](http://www.ccf.org.ph/about-us/branches-church-planting/ccf-taytay) | 8:30-10:00 A.M. |
| 10:30 A.M. - 12:00 NN |



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Kindly make your comments and suggestions

Making Christ Committed Follower who will make Christ Committed Follower who will make Christ Committed Follower…