### FOUNDERS

NICODEMUS



# WE CAN FULLY COMMIT & COMPLETELY FAIL

John 3.1-2

Now a certain man, a Pharisee named Nicodemus, who was a member of the Jewish ruling council, came to Jesus at night



John 3.1-2

[Nicodemus] said to him,

"Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him."

## WE SHOULD BE PASSIONATE & PERSUADABLE

Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much Wisdom is humble – that he knows no more

John 3.3-4

Jesus replied,

"I tell you the solemn truth, unless a person is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3.3-4

Nicodemus said to him,

"How can a man be born when he is old?
He cannot enter his mother's womb and be born a second time, can he?"

### George Whitefield to Ben Franklin

"I find that you grow more and more famous in the learned world..."

### George Whitefield to Ben Franklin

"As you have made such progress in investigating the mysteries of electricity, I now humbly urge you to give diligent heed to the mystery of the new birth."

### George Whitefield to Ben Franklin

"It is a most important and interesting study and, when mastered, will richly repay you for your pains."

John 3.5-7

Jesus answered, "I tell you the solemn truth, unless a person is born of water and spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."



John 3.5-7

"What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must all be born from above.'"

# OUR BIRTH INFLUENCES OUR BEHAVIOR

### 2 Peter 1.4

Through these things he has bestowed on us his precious and most magnificent promises, so that by means of what was promised you may become partakers of the divine nature, after escaping the worldly corruption that is produced by evil desire.

2 Peter2.21-22

For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than, having known it, to turn back from the holy commandment that had been delivered to them.

2 Peter2.21-22

They are illustrations of this true proverb:

"A dog returns to its own vomit," and "A sow, after washing herself, wallows in the mire."

John 3.14-18

Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

John 3.14-18

For this is the way God loved the world:
He gave his one and only Son, so that
everyone who believes in him will not perish
but have eternal life.

#### Warren Wiersbe

"In the camp of Israel, the solution to the 'serpent problem' was not in killing the serpents, making medicine, pretending they were not there, passing anti-serpent laws, or climbing the pole.

#### Warren Wiersbe

"The answer was in looking by faith at the uplifted serpent"

John 3.14-18

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world should be saved through him. The one who believes in him is not condemned.

John 3.14-18

The one who does not believe has been condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God.

## IT'S NOT WHAT WE DO, IT'S WHAT GOD HAS DONE

# WE FORGET TO TRUST OUR FATHER

John 3.19-21

Now this is the basis for judging: that the light has come into the world and people loved the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil.

John 3.19-21

For everyone who does evil deeds hates the light and does not come to the light, so their deeds will not be exposed.



#### Warren Wiersbe

It is not "intellectual problems" that keep people from trusting Christ; It is the moral and spiritual blindness that keeps them loving the darkness and hating the light.

John 3.19-21

But the one who practices the truth comes to the light, so that it may be plainly evident that his deeds have been done in God.



# OUR GUILT IS UNIVERSAL OUR RESPONSE IS UNIQUE

# OUR GUILT IS UNIVERSAL GOD'S GRACE IS UNCHANGED

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