

"The Most Important Conversation Ever"

John 3:9-21
March 8, 2015

Source of Nicodemus' struggle: The real source of Nicodemus' struggle was not a lack of understanding it was an unwillingness to believe.

Jesus pinpointing the progression of Nicodemus' struggle:

(v.10) - "(you) do not understand."

(v.11) - "you do not receive."

(v.12) - "how can you believe."

Timeless Truth: The way to be "born again" is to believe.

Jesus' Old Testament example of belief: The brass serpent in the wilderness. (Numbers 21)

To escape death in the wilderness, the Israelites would have to believe two things:

1. They would have to believe they were a sinner and it was their sin that had caused the condition they were experiencing.
2. They had to have faith in God that by looking at this brass standard, it would work and they would be healed.

Timeless Truth: Regeneration occurs through belief.

Timeless Truth: Jesus came to pull you out of the quicksand of sin.

Problem: The Greek word for believe has been watered down in the English language.

Three words to strengthen the word believe:

1. Trust
2. Commit
3. Rely on