

## WHO IS IN THE GROUP?

## CONTEXT

Early in John and Jesus' ministry  
Night, secret meeting  
After water into wine, clearing temple  
Before Samaritan woman

## HISTORICAL & CULTURAL BACKGROUND

Pharisees = teachers of the Law who pursue purity

Sanhedrin = ruling council

Moses & snake - Numbers 21:1-9

Rabbi = spiritual preacher

WHO: Jesus, Nicodemus

WHERE: Jerusalem

# BIBLE STUDY PREPARATION

## PASSAGE: JOHN 3:1-21 NICODEMUS

## QUESTIONS & OBSERVATIONS

### \*5 NON-NEGOTIABLES

Why does he come at night?

••What does it mean to be born of the spirit?

••What's Nicodemus's motivation?

Why does Jesus respond the way he does to Nicodemus' initial statement?

What's the experience of Nicodemus?

••What's the difference between things of the flesh & things of the Spirit?

••What is Nicodemus missing that Jesus is trying to get at?

••What is the connection between the snake and this passage?

••What is it that condemns people?

••In a relativistic age, how do we deal with the light/dark dichotomy?

## 5 POSSIBLE RESPONSES

Who in your life reminds you of Nicodemus? How can you be bold with them as Jesus is with Nicodemus?

Pray that God can be lifted up in the dorms.

Videotape each other for a day. Discuss how your actions change when you know you're being watched.

## CREATIVE CONNECTION

Write an internal monologue for Nicodemus at the halfway point of the story.

Videotape Bible study with bright lights

Candle lit Bible study (recreating the atmosphere)

Watch birthing videos