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Sermon Discussion Questions Sunday, January 19, 2025

> "Life in the Kingdom" John 3: 1-15 Pastor Mike Farley

1. What does it mean to be "born again" or "born from above"? How does being "born of water and the Spirit" help explain what this concept means? Read the following Scripture passages to see how they provide the background to understand Jesus' point: Genesis 1:2; Isaiah 44:1-5; Ezekiel 36:22-29; John 1:29-34.

2. Who is Nicodemus? How is he a model of a successful person who seems to have every aspect of an abundant life from the world's perspective? What are some possible reasons that Nicodemus struggled to understand and accept what Jesus was saying?

3. If we must be born again or born from above, what does that imply about the severity of our fallen condition as sinful human beings? How does this diagnosis reveal the magnitude and grace of God's saving work for us? What attitudes of mind and heart should that produce in us?

4. Do you struggle with trusting Christ to give you abundant life right now? What obstacles, struggles, trials, fears, and sins keep us from fully surrendering to God's will for us in our present life?

5. What are things or activities that we try to use to find abundant life? What are some signs that we are relying on these things for life in ways that we should not?

6. Share some examples or stories about times when you discovered how Jesus meets our needs and enables us to experience abundance and joy in our life with him? How important is being an active member of the church in discovering and receiving the life of Jesus by his Spirit?