



Prayers Anchored in the Gospel of John

John 2:23–3:15

Saturday, February 22, 2014

* Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

* The Collect

Collecting your thoughts so you can focus
on God.

John 2:23–3:15 (NIV)

- * ²³ Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name.²⁴ But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people. ²⁵ He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.
- * ^{3:1} Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”
- * ³ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”
- * ⁴ “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”
- * ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”
- * ⁹ “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.
- * ¹⁰ “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

* Each of us tend to connect with God in different ways. Some of the pathways that are common are:

- Nature
- Solitude
- Service to others
- Study
- Simplicity
- Liturgy or Symbolic Action
- Sharing deeply with others about God
- Art or Music
- Confronting Evil



* **Meditation**

- *Take some time today to connect with God in one of your favourite ways.
- *Remember that God has made each of us to relate to Him in a different way and so we all connect with Him in unique ways.
- *Enjoy the freedom of walking with Jesus today.

*Meditation

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

Father, grant us, we pray, eyes to see your Son Jesus today. As we wait, as we watch, as we play, as we walk, may we have eyes to see your Son lifted up, in suffering and glory. Pour into hearts anew your love by the power of your Holy Spirit. May we have a greater love for you, your people and your creation.

Andrew Kirk

 **Blessing**