

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE BORN AGAIN

BORN OF THE SPIRIT BY BELIEVING IN THE SON

Key Scripture: John 3:1-8, Romans 10:9-13

What is born of the flesh is flesh, but what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Your new birth was not of man's will, but of God's Spirit. You became a son/daughter of God the moment you turned to Jesus in repentance, believing with your heart and confessing with your mouth that He is Lord. **Welcome to the Family of God!**

When did you first believe and become born again? (If you are not born-again, let's pray the prayer of salvation attached right now.)

MIRACULOUSLY RE-CREATED BY GOD FOR FELLOWSHIP

Key Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, 1 John 1:9, 1 Corinthians 15:46-49, Ephesians 4:17-24

Through belief in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and through repentance, you have become a brand new person in Christ. You received the greatest MIRACLE you will ever receive. You were dead, but now you're alive! Now, you are a new man/woman made righteous and holy. God no longer sees you according to your former ways, He sees you as you truly are, re-created in His very image. Now that you are alive, you are able to live a life of communion and fellowship with God.

1. You are a living miracle! According to 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, In Christ, what have you become? What has passed away, and what has become new?

2. Discuss the 'Heavenly Man' in 1 Corinthians 15:48-49. Discuss receiving His image and growing in fellowship with Him.

3. How will you daily put on the 'new man' and be renewed in the spirit of your mind?

YOU ARE NOW PART OF THE HEAVENLY FAMILY

Key Scriptures: John 1:12-13, 1 John 3:1, Romans 8:15, Galatians 4:4-6, 2 Corinthians 6:17-18

You've been born into the most amazing family. You now have the Father you've always wanted! You've been given the Spirit of sonship, no longer wandering or lost in the world. The word 'Abba' is best translated into the english words, Papa or Daddy. Take time to receive your Father's great love in your heart and life. Know that you belong, and you don't need to search for love anymore.

Jesus is Lord and Savior, and He is also your Big Brother! Living for Jesus means you may lose old friends, or be rejected by those who don't believe, but you gain brothers and sisters all over the world. You are part of the biggest, best, most powerful family, tribe and nation that has ever existed.

Enjoy your new identity as a child of God!

1. According to Romans 8:15, what spirit did you NOT receive? What Spirit did you receive?

2. Knowing that you belong in God's family, discuss how you will let Him Father you. Discuss the importance of getting involved with a local church family.

FREEDOM FROM SIN - A NEW KINGDOM, A NEW WAY OF LIVING

Key Scriptures: Colossians 1:13-14, Romans 6:1-14, 1 John 2:1-2

Now that you're born again, you're no longer under the kingdom of darkness. Satan and sin have lost dominion over you! As a child of God, you don't have to be entangled with sin. You have renounced sin (pride, rebellion, self-will, falling short & missing the mark), and you have been **set completely free from it's power!** Walk in the newness of life and let your decisions be governed by the your **new King, Jesus Christ**. Your identity is no longer 'sinner,' but is now 'the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus'. Receive this new kingdom and identity!

In this kingdom, you're not focused on 'not sinning.' Your focus is on seeking Jesus and His Kingdom first. As you're working out your salvation, if you sin, know that you have an advocate (Defender, Friend, Helper) to bring you back on track. Always run TO God in repentance, not away from Him in shame. Keeping your heart humble, open and submitted to Him at all times will keep you thriving in His Kingdom. If you are aware of a sin that you need to renounce, don't be ashamed! RENOUNCE it, and find complete freedom in Him!

1. Discuss the identity that God has given you in Christ Jesus. Write and share three 'I am' declarations below:

I am _____

I am _____

I am _____

2. What if you sin in the future?
