

Aim of lesson

To appreciate what it means to be born again and to have a new life.

Bible background

John 3

Outline of lesson

Being born again

Read together John 3:1-8 using different members of the class for the narrator, Jesus and Nicodemus.

Let the class do the crossword in the workbook. They will have to search through the rest of John 3 for some of the answers.

Ask them what they think being born again means. Bring out that it is not only being buried in water but also becoming a child of God. We are born by the power of God; it is his act of redemption that gives us a new life.

Let the class do the 'Spot the difference' picture in the workbook.

What difference does it make?

Ask each of them to look up one of the following references and say what differences they find between old life and new life. They could make this into a large chart:

John 3:5	John 3:16	John 3:18
John 3:20,21	Romans 6:17,18	Galatians 5:16-21
Ephesians 2:1,4,5	Ephesians 2:12,13	Colossians 1:20-22

Digging deeper

Lessons from John 3

This section is to remind the young people of some important doctrines, and gets them to think about them in relation to John 3.

Relevance to our lives

Taking the class to a baptism would be very helpful. If this is not possible you could invite someone recently baptised to answer questions from the class about the difference in his/her life.

Prayer

Dear Lord God, thank you for wanting us to be your children and for offering us new life.

Other suggestions for activities

- You could trace the development of Nicodemus' faith through the gospel, seeing what new life meant to him. John 7:50-52; 19:38-42.
- Each of the class could choose a text from this chapter to make a poster – verses 3,5,7,8,14,16,17, 35 and 36 all contain suitable texts.