

Reboot 2017: New Life for Real People New Year – New You

From *Time* magazine to *Good Morning America*, the #1 topic of the week is the new year. The coming of a new year is a symbol of hope. A moment when nearly all of us dare to look forward, past our failures and past our regrets, to a second chance. To a Do-Over. But Real Life doesn't major in do-overs. We don't always get a second chance. But Jesus said otherwise. This week we'll take a look at what the new year could mean for you.

John 3:1–2, 5–8

People tend to come to Jesus – and the church – for one of three reasons: They have (1) a question they can't answer; (2) a hole they can't fill; or (3) a spiritual itch they can't scratch.

Why do you think Nicodemus came to Jesus?

1. Jesus offers a life _____ .
John 3:1–3

2. Being _____ means being
born of the Spirit.
John 3:5–8

The Greek word for Spirit also means wind and breath. All three words are interchangeable.

3. The Spirit blows you into _____ .
John 3:16–21

New birth means allowing the Holy Spirit to do what it wants with you ... it's more than just belief. It's total surrender.

*Join Dr. Bill on Wednesdays starting this week for a study of the book of James. James wrote much on the topic of faith being more than belief. If you can't attend, you can still participate by viewing the **Francis Chan Bible Study on James** with **RightNowMedia.com**.*

Digging Deeper and Going Further

Read John 3:1–21. This passage contains one of the most “famous” Bible verses. John 3:16 *For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son; that whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.* Taken out of context, the verse seems to say that “believing” is the only requirement for becoming a new creation (see also 2 Corinthians 5:17).

1. Why do you think Nicodemus wanted to see Jesus at night?

2. What do you think Jesus meant when he said we must be born of the Spirit? (Remember, the word Spirit also means breath and wind.)

3. In verse 8, Jesus describes what life is like for those born of the Spirit. What do you think that would be like?

4. In verse 15, what is it Jesus wants Nicodemus to believe?

5. In verses 16–18 the writer adds to the terms of belief from believing what Jesus was saying to “believing in him.” Literally, this phrase means “entrust yourself to him.” What does it mean to *entrust yourself* to Jesus?

6. How do you think verses 16–18 are related to verse 8?
