

Theme: Friendship

Title: The Example of Jesus and Nicodemus

Text: John 3

A FRIEND LIKE NO OTHER: THE LORD JESUS

1. He made a difference to the people around Him
2. One person that He made difference to: Nicodemus

WHO IS NICODEMUS?

1. A man of the Pharisees
2. Ruler (leader) of the Jews

THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS AS A FRIEND

1. Grace
 - a. Nicodemus came to Jesus at night
 - b. Jesus did not turn him away
2. Wisdom and knowledge
 - a. Nicodemus came to Jesus with questions
 - b. Jesus was able to address his questions
 - i. Jesus discerned where Nicodemus was coming from
 - ii. Jesus was able to help Nicodemus go deeper in his understanding
 - c. The knowledge of Jesus
 - i. Not ignorant
 - ii. Not having wrong knowledge
 - iii. Full of wisdom
3. Faith
 - a. Jesus spoke to Nicodemus on that which truly mattered: faith (believe)
 - b. Faith
 - i. In God

- ii. In the Son of God
- c. Faith that will lead to
 - i. Salvation
 - ii. Everlasting life
 - iii. Change in one's life (born again)

THE DIFFERENCE THAT JESUS MADE ON NICODEMUS

1. While others sought to condemn Jesus, Nicodemus stood up for Him (Cf. John 7:50)
2. Nicodemus also cared for the body of Jesus after His crucifixion (Cf. John 19:39)

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To check
 - a. What kind of friends do we have?
 - b. What kind of a friend are we?
2. To follow the example of the Lord Jesus