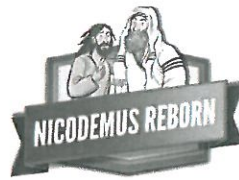


Lesson 22



1-31-2021
LEADER GUIDE

NICODEMUS REBORN

JOHN 3

GOAL

- ▶ To help children get to know Nicodemus and understand the concept of "new birth" and what is involved in becoming "born again."
-

CHARACTERS

- ▶ **Jesus:** Carefully explained to Nicodemus what He meant by new birth.

Nicodemus: A Pharisee who was curious about Jesus and His teaching. He came to Jesus seeking answers.

MEMORY VERSE

- ▶ **John 3:16:** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
-

OVERVIEW

- ▶ **Read John 3:** Nicodemus, one of the elite religious leaders, came to Jesus in secret. He was intrigued by Jesus' message, and he was eager to learn how to follow Him. He was perplexed by Jesus' words, but interested in following Him, learning what it meant to be "born again."
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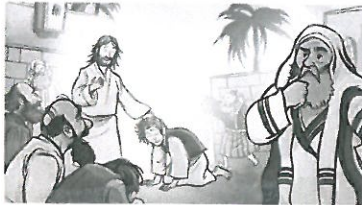
MEMORY VERSE MEANING

- ▶ **John 3:16:** God loves us, and He didn't want to be separated from us because of sin anymore. To solve this problem, God sent His only son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin so we could once again have a relationship with God. Because this relationship has been restored, if we believe in Jesus and what His sacrifice did for us, we can live in heaven forever.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: Who was one of the people who recognized Jesus' power?

A1: Nicodemus

SLIDE 2



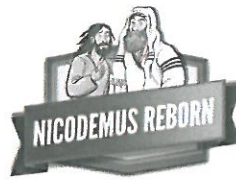
Q2a: To what group of religious leaders did Nicodemus belong?

A2: The Pharisees

Q2b: Do you have any unanswered questions about Jesus?

TN: Nicodemus saw Jesus' power and that seemed to back up His claim to be the Son of God. But because so much of His teachings went against what Nicodemus believed, he was having a hard time deciding whether he should believe and follow. Some students may be in the same situation. If students ask any questions to which you do not know the answer, offer to pray with them for God to give them wisdom.

Slide 3



QUESTION & ANSWER

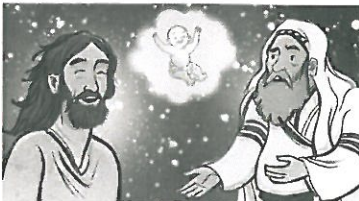
SLIDE 3



Q3a: Why did Nicodemus need to meet Jesus at night?

A3: So the other Pharisees would not find out he was meeting with Jesus.

SLIDE 4

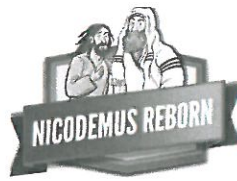


Q4a: What did Jesus tell Nicodemus he must do to inherit the Kingdom of God?

A4: He said Nicodemus must be born again.

Q4b: In what form does a butterfly begin its life?

TN: Butterflies are first hairy, little worm-like insects called caterpillars. At a certain point in their lives, they wrap themselves up into a cocoon and a little while later they emerge as beautiful butterflies. When we put our faith in Jesus, we become a new, clean person, born of the Holy Spirit. Jesus calls this rebirth, but it isn't a literal rebirth as Nicodemus thought. This rebirth is a radical spiritual change.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: What did Jesus tell Nicodemus he had not come to do?

A5: Jesus said He did not come to condemn the world, but to save it.

SLIDE 6

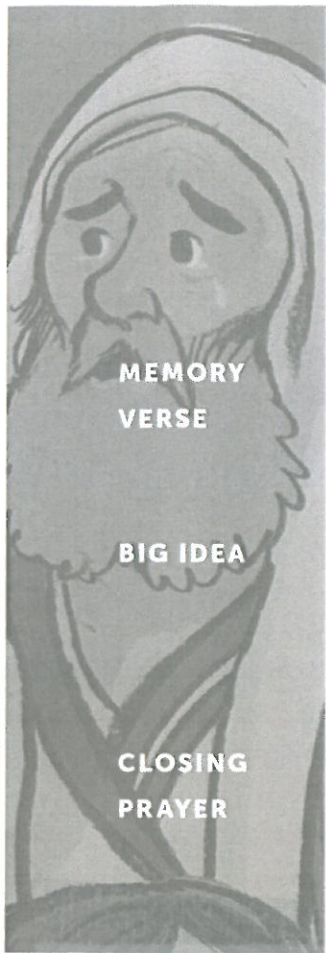


Q6a: What did Nicodemus learn about that night?

A6: He learned about God's love and eternal life.

Q6b: Now that we understand what Jesus meant by being born again, have you been born again?

TN: This question should not be used to pressure students, and teachers should not feel pressured to lead all their students to Christ today. This question is just meant to get students talking about their faith and provide an opportunity for any interested students to profess their faith. If any students express an interest in accepting Jesus as their Savior, lead them in prayer and make sure to share this news with the family member who comes to pick them up. If any students still don't understand what it means to be born again, ask what they don't understand and try to help them.



**MEMORY
VERSE**

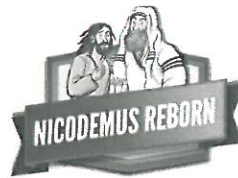
▶ **John 3:16:** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

BIG IDEA

▶ When we accept Jesus as our Savior, we become new creations, as if we had been born again.

**CLOSING
PRAYER**

▶ Dear God, thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus. We are so happy that we get to spend eternity with You. We thank You in Jesus' name, Amen.



NICODEMUS REBORN

ANSWER KEY

Across

4. Jesus said, "For God so loved the **(World)**, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."
5. The **(Pharisees)** were part of the religious leadership of the day.
6. Jesus explained to Nicodemus that he must be born of water and **(Spirit)**.
7. Nicodemus met Jesus late at **(Night)**.

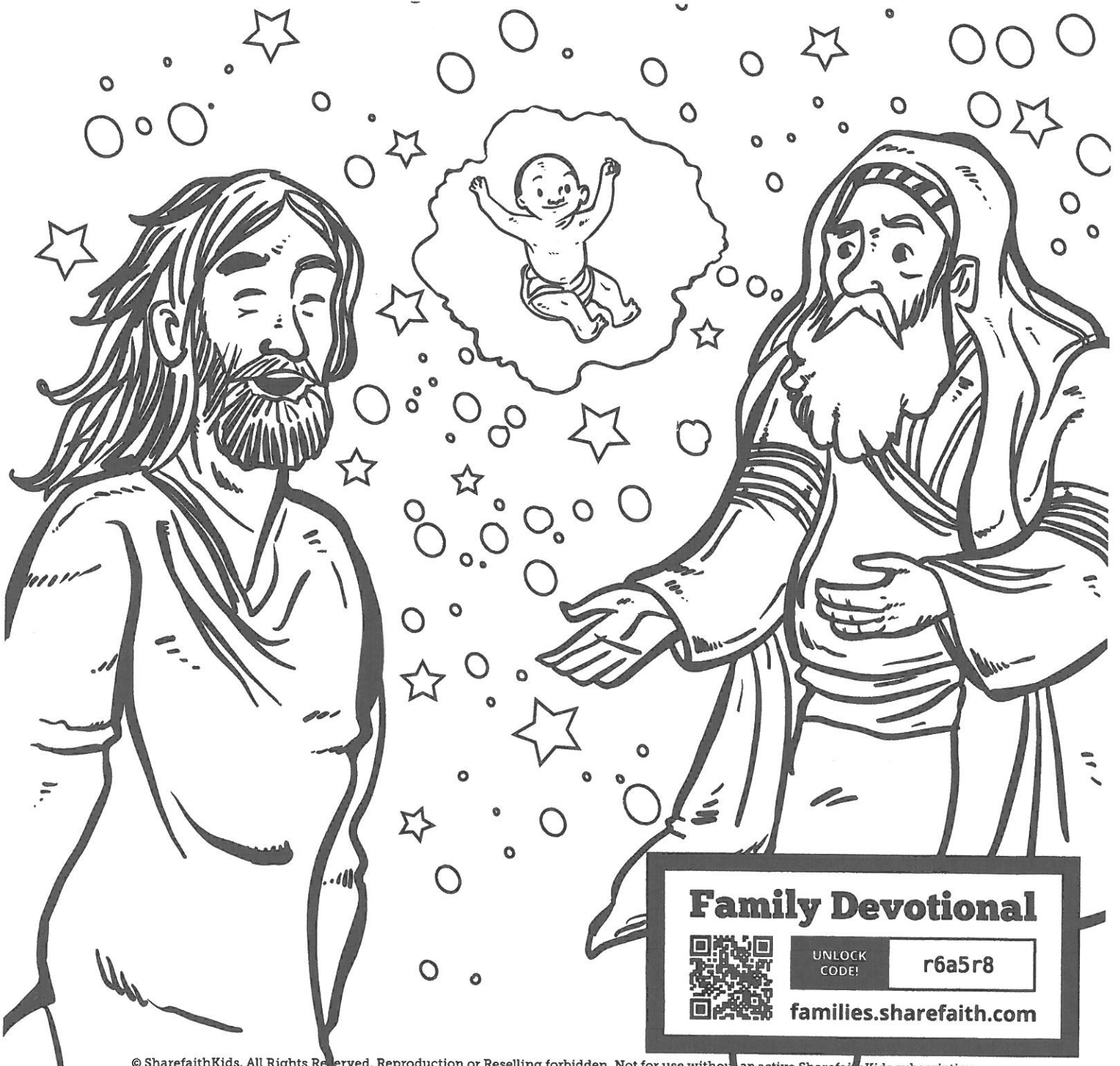
Down

1. Nicodemus was a leader of the **(Jews)**.
2. Jesus told Nicodemus that he could not inherit God's Kingdom unless he was **(Born)** again.
3. Jesus revealed to Nicodemus that He was the **(Messiah)**, and had come to give new life.
8. When the Pharisees came to listen to Jesus teach, they asked him many **(Trick)** questions, to try and find fault with him.

NICODEMUS REBORN

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

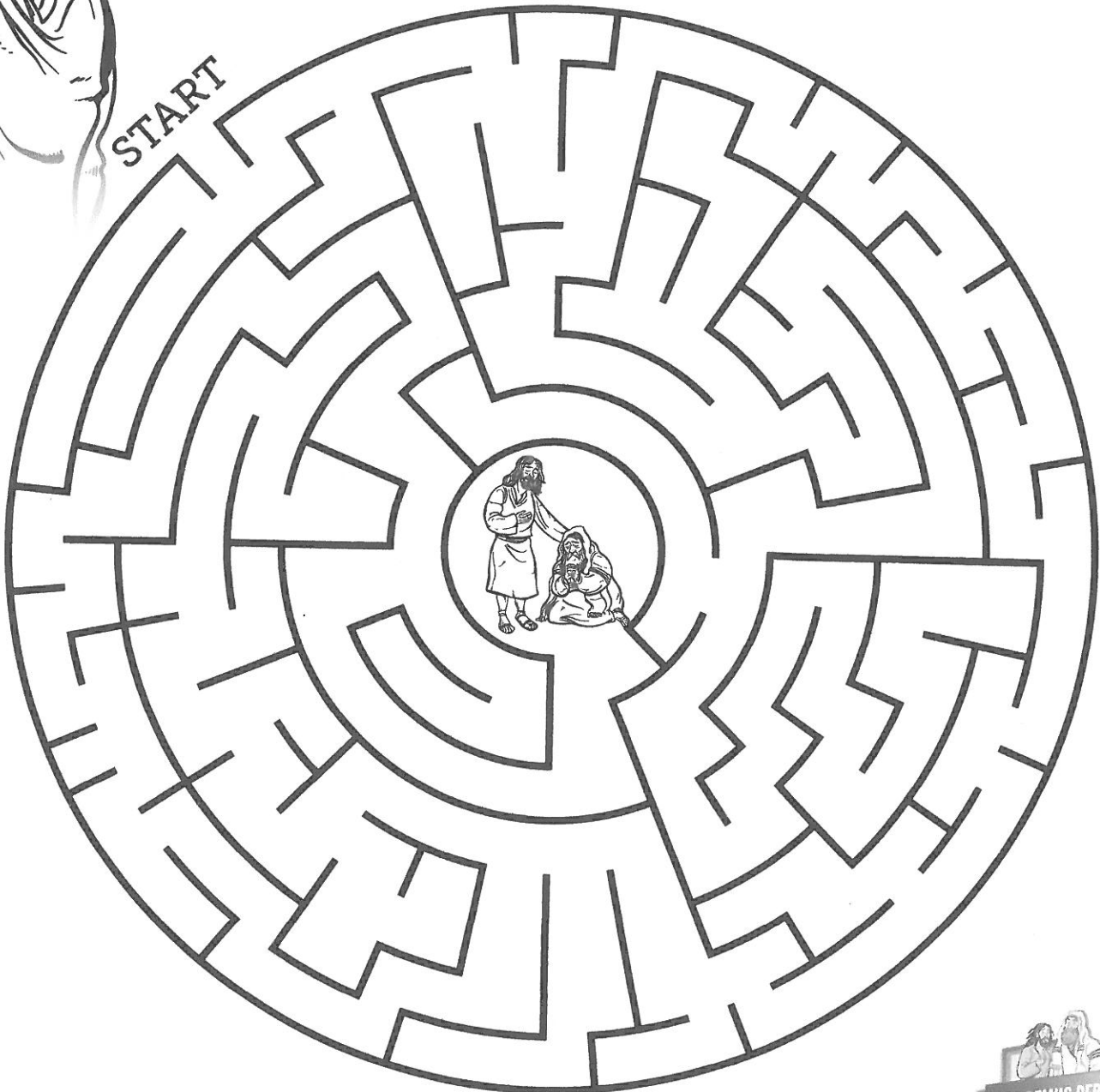


NICODEMUS REBORN

Guide Jesus to Nicodemus



START



NICODEMUS REBORN

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



NICODEMUS REBORN

Discover the hidden words.

E	G	Q	S	A	A	N	N	Q	Z	R	J	P	H	V
X	O	W	I	H	D	O	L	I	F	E	G	H	G	S
N	E	M	K	K	I	P	G	J	S	G	S	A	V	P
J	H	B	X	T	V	Y	L	Y	H	Y	K	R	M	I
R	D	E	S	W	O	R	L	D	J	R	H	I	G	R
P	T	E	Q	R	T	P	R	V	S	N	M	S	S	I
E	U	H	D	G	A	V	Q	P	S	P	W	E	G	T
Q	X	B	G	X	K	W	A	P	V	M	V	E	O	M
X	Q	M	L	I	Z	G	C	I	E	F	J	S	O	V
M	B	V	S	G	N	X	E	B	F	E	E	D	F	Y
N	I	C	O	D	E	M	U	S	S	V	G	W	R	X
T	E	A	C	H	Y	T	N	U	A	N	V	I	I	G
M	E	S	S	I	A	H	S	K	I	E	J	T	Q	T
K	U	F	B	H	S	R	B	K	L	H	K	V	N	C
E	I	T	I	W	H	C	X	K	F	Y	P	X	A	T

Word Bank

WORLD

LIFE

PHARISEES

SPIRIT

NIGHT

JEWS

KINGDOM

MESSIAH

QUESTION

NICODEMUS

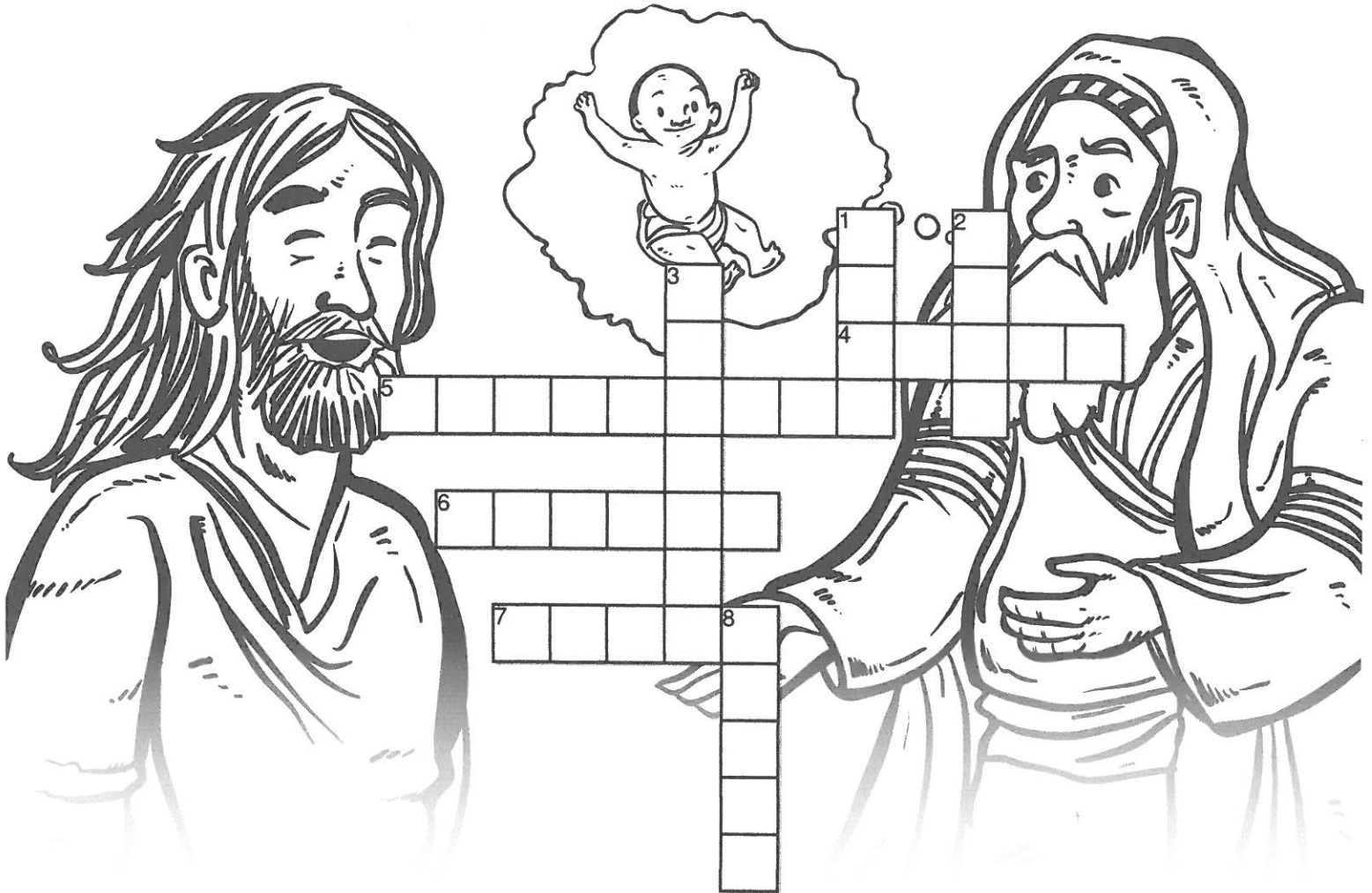
JESUS

TEACH



NICODEMUS REBORN

John 3



Across

4. Jesus said, "For God so loved the _____, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life."
5. The _____ were part of the religious leadership of the day.
6. Jesus explained to Nicodemus that he must be born of water and _____.
7. Nicodemus met Jesus late at _____.

Down

1. Nicodemus was a leader of the _____.
2. Jesus told Nicodemus that he could not inherit God's Kingdom unless he was _____ again.
3. Jesus revealed to Nicodemus that He was the _____, and had come to give new life.
8. When the Pharisees came to listen to Jesus teach, they asked him many _____ questions, to try and find fault with him.



Caterpillar Becomes a Butterfly Craft

- Supplies: 2 pipe cleaners folded in half, 40 pony beads, 1 big bead
- Caterpillar: Thread on 12 pony beads; then the big bead for the head
Split the ends to secure the head & shape the antennae
- Butterfly: Thread 14 beads on each half of the pipe cleaner
Twist the ends closed with 1 1/2" of pipe cleaner
Twist ends around caterpillar's middle to make legs
Shape the wings

