

VOICE OF THE VISION

YOU MUST BE Born Again



John 3:3-8 (NKJV)

³Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Introduction

John began by telling us that Nicodemus was a Pharisee and added that he was a ruler of the Jews. This means that he belonged to the Sanhedrin, the ruling council in Jerusalem that consisted of 71 members from the Pharisees and Sadducees. The Pharisees were largely composed of middle-class businessmen who were concerned about following the Jewish law and had separated themselves from the common people by their strict adherence to their many regulations and rules. Nicodemus was apparently a leading Pharisee because Jesus calls him "the teacher of Israel" (John 3:10).

Nicodemus, having been impressed by Jesus and the signs which He was doing, went at night for a talk. For a leader of the Sanhedrin to come to the quarters of a lowborn Galilean

carpenter, to address Him as "Rabbi", and to acknowledge that He had come from God was no small matter. But in spite of his complimentary greetings, Nicodemus viewed Jesus not as the Christ, the Son of God, which is necessary to receive eternal life.

The Pharisees were very religious that aside from the Law of Moses, they added man-made regulations and took pride in their strict observance. They taught that by observing these regulations, God will be pleased. Since Jesus already knew what was in Nicodemus' heart, He cut straight to the point by answering the question of Nicodemus' heart.

I. What is to be born again?

The word "again" (*anōthen*) has three different meanings in Greek:

- From the beginning or completely and fully
- A repeated act
- From the top or above

When Jesus declared that a man must be born again, he meant...

- To be born completely, all over again and from above (from God)

Before a baby is born, he has all the potentials of life but lacks the ability to use them.

- It has eyes but cannot see.
- It has ears but cannot hear.
- It has a mouth but cannot speak.
- It has lungs but cannot breathe.

These are the signs that a person must experience to be

born again (born of the Spirit).

- His spiritual eyes will be opened.
- His spiritual ears will hear.
- His spiritual mouth will speak.
- His spiritual lungs can now breathe.

1 Corinthians 2:14

The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

After a baby is born, the next process will take place. He will be:

- Washed and cleansed
- Clothed in new garment
- Nursed and nourished
- Given a name

Similarly, a new believer will also undergo these processes.

- He will be washed by the blood of Jesus Christ.
- He will be clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
- He will become a disciple and will undergo training.
- He will be called child of God.

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Rev. Dr. James C. Sy
Administrative Pastor

UCA: LEARN IN THREE MODES

Another fun and productive school year is about to unfold. Have you chosen the perfect delivery mode of learning for the needs of your children? United Christian Academy (UCA) offers three modes of learning—**Distance Learning, Face-to-Face, and On-the-Go**, all for the diverse needs of students. Here are the following advantages of each mode.

- It provides students with the opportunity to interact with their teachers and peers in real-time, promoting better communication and collaboration.
- It offers more structured learning environments, with set schedules and routines that can help students stay focused and motivated.
- It allows hands-on learning experiences inside and outside the classroom.
- It provides students with immediate feedback on their work, allowing them to make adjustments and improvements more quickly.

#UCAFace-to-Face



- It allows students to learn at their own pace and on their own schedule, providing flexibility and convenience.
- It removes geographical barriers, giving students access to courses and resources necessary for their learning.
- It is more cost-effective as it eliminates the need for commuting, allowance, and other expenses.
- It promotes the development of digital literacy skills, which are increasingly important in today's workforce.

Want to have real-time interaction with your friends, schoolmates, and teachers? Face-to-face mode of learning might be a traditional classroom set-up, but with UCA's advanced and innovative methodologies, it has become a room to discover skills, learn new ideas, and improve in different learning areas.

Looking for learning at your own time and location? Learning at the comfort of your home with a flexible schedule is what UCA offers in distance learning. With the help of its learning platform, UCA Online, learning is possible in every corner of the world.

#UCADistanceLearning



Prefer having classes at home yet having troubles with Internet connectivity? For offline users, the UCA On-The-Go (OTG) is perfect for you. A plug-and-play technology gives you the quality education that you need without having to worry about getting Internet connection.

#UCAOn-the-Go

- It can be easily connected and disconnected to your devices or gadgets.
- It is fast, reliable, and easy to use.
- It is hassle-free to take along wherever you are because it does not require Internet to access video lessons and activities.
- Lessons are budgeted and organized for your personal learning plan.

RESERVE YOUR SLOTS AND ENROLL NOW!

SCAN THIS QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION



**Luke 14:23
(NKJV)**

Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'

WHAT'S MORE?

FINANCIAL AID FOR QUALITY EDUCATION

Even with the desire to bring our children in schools that offer high-standard education, finances sometimes become a barrier to pursue a good school. As an institution brought about by God-given vision, United Christian Academy (UCA) partnered with various institutions and applied for government certifications to offer vouchers to its learners. Here are the following vouchers that come with tuition subsidies as you pursue your education here in UCA.

Education Service Contracting Subsidy

For years, UCA received an outstanding rating of **Above Standard** during the re-certification of the Private Education Assistance Committee (PEAC). This program aims to increase access to quality basic education at the secondary level by providing financial assistance to deserving elementary graduates who wish to study junior high school in private schools.

1

Receive subsidy as an incoming Grade 7 student from public school.



2

Enjoy the subsidy from Grade 7 until Grade 12.



3

Experience topnotch education in a school that cares for your future.



Senior High School Voucher

As UCA envisions to produce individuals who are ready for work, business, and college, the SHS voucher helps in providing access to greater choices in deciding the SHS program that caters to the students' needs and career goals. UCA, as an information and communications technology (ICT) premier school in Parañaque, focuses on ICT courses which are in-demand today both locally and abroad.

1

Avail free tuition from Grade 11 and Grade 12 as an incoming student from public school.



2

Train and gain skills and competencies as aspiring professionals.



3

Study and be certified in one of the premier ICT schools in the city.



ENROLL NOW in the school where quality education is affordable!

⁴⁶So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:46-47
(NKJV)



MT. TABOR UPDATE

Katapatan ng Panginoon sa KANIYANG PANGAKO



Ang sabi sa Mga Kawikaan 16:9, "Ang tao ang nagbabalak ngunit si Yahweh ang nagpapatupad." Nagdaan ang ilang taon bago tuluyang simulang itayo ni Rev. Dr. William Sy ang panambahan sa Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center. Gayunpaman, nagpatuloy sa pananampalataya si Rev. Dr. Sy dahil alam niyang may plano ang Panginoon at ipinakita na Niya ito sa pamamagitan ng pangitain.

Marami mang pagsubok at panahon ang nagdaan, ngunit nanatili pa rin ang pangako ng Panginoon. At sa susunod na mga buwan ay mayroon muling isang panambahang gagamitin ang Panginoon para sa mga karatig na lugar sa Mt. Tabor. Ito ay magagamit sa pag-akay sa mga kaluluwang mga tinawag din ng Diyos. Kaya walang tigil din ang pagpapagal na ginagawa ng mga manggagawa sa pangunguna ni Rev. Dr. Sy na nagpapatuloy sa pagtayo ng panambahan dito. Buong puso, sipag at oras ang kanilang ibinibigay dahil sa kagustuhan nilang sumunod sa kalooban ng Diyos.

Ang Diyos ay tapat sa Kaniyang pangako kaya ang mga manggagawang hinipo ng Panginoon upang sumunod sa Kaniyang kalooban ay nananatili ring tapat. Atin ding saliksikin ang plano ng Panginoon sa ating buhay at magpatuloy tayong sumunod sa Kaniyang Salita.



Mabigat at matrabaho man ang mga ginagawa, ngunit ang pakikiisa sa gawain ng Diyos ay isang kagalakan para sa bawat isa.



Gamit ang lakas na nagmumula sa Diyos ay tulong-tulong ang kalalakihan upang mabilis matapos ang gawain.



Sa kasalukuyan ay nasementuhan na ang magiging sahig ng panambahan sa pagtutulongan ng kalalakihan at ilang manggagawa sa Mt. Tabor.

2 Timothy 4:2
(NKJV)

Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

BIBLE STUDY

Ang isinasagawang *Bible study* linggo-linggo ay pinangungunahan ng mga lingkod ng Diyos na sina Rev. Morrell Estrellado at Rev. Fidel Dillo na tagapagpadala ng Mabuting Balita ng kaligtasan. Ang lahat ay inaanyayahan ding magpuri at magpasalamat sa Panginoon sa pamamagitan ng paghandog ng mga awitin sa Kaniya. Malugod ding nagbahagi ang bawat manggagawa ng kanilang mga testimonya ng kabutihan ng Diyos upang maging kalakasan sa mga bagong kaluluwang nakarinig ng Salita ng Diyos.

Nagtipon-tipon ang mga nais magpuri at magpasalamat sa Panginoon at kanilang naranasan ang Kaniyang presensya.



Tulong-tulong ang mga manggagawa upang maihatid ang Mabuting Balita ng kaligtasan sa mga kaluluwang naghahanap sa Panginoon.

HOUSE VISITATION

Ang mga manggagawa ay muling naglibot sa kalapit na mga tahanan sa Mt. Tabor upang anyayahan ang mga nais makilala ang Panginoon sa isinasagawang *Bible study* tuwing Martes. Ang pag-asang nanggagaling sa ating Panginoong Hesus ang siya ring hatid ng mga manggagawang nais makaakay ng mga kaluluwang napapagal.



Isang oportunidad muli ang nagbukas upang ang mga tao ay manumbalik sa Panginoon at sila'y makarinig ng Kaniyang Salita. Kaya patuloy ang pag-aanyaya ng mga manggagawa sa mga pamilya sa karatig na mga lugar upang dumalo sa *Bible study* na ginaganap sa Mt. Tabor.

And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:18
(NKJV)

ADULT PRESENTATION

PAG-AWIT NA ALAY SA DIYOS

Ang pagbibigay papuri at pag-awit para sa Panginoon ay hindi nakabase sa talento, edad, kasarian o estado sa buhay bagkus ang Diyos ay nakatingin sa lamanin ng ating mga puso.

Isang makahulugang presentasyon ang isinigawa ng mga miyembro at manggagawa mula sa *Adult Fellowship* noong Hunyo 25, Linggo. Taos-puso nilang inawit at idineklara ang pagsuko ng kanilang mga buhay sa ating Panginoon at Tagapagligtas na si Hesu Kristo. Ang awit ay isang deklarasyon ng anak ng Diyos na siya ay magmamahal at magtitiwala lamang sa Panginoon sa kaniyang buong buhay.

Tunay na ang Panginoon ang humihipo sa puso ng Kaniyang mga anak. Dahil sa Kaniyang makapangyarihang pagkilos sa kanilang mga buhay ay kanilang napatunayan na ang Diyos ay buhay at Siya ay nararapat na bigyan ng mataas na papuri at pagsamba. Purihin ang Panginoon!



Umawit ng may pasasalamat sa Diyos ang mga ama at ina ng panambahan bilang kanilang patotoo na ang Panginoon ay dakila.

"Diyos lamang ang nagbigay ng ganoong pag-ibig na kahit nakagawa tayo ng mali sa Kaniyang mata ay ibinigay Niya pa rin ang Kaniyang bugtong na Anak upang tayo ay maligtas mula sa kamatayang dulot ng ating kasalanan."



Rev. Ryan Christian C. Tabay
ASSOCIATE PASTOR | FEBRUARY 9, 2023

"Ang pinakamalaking paglilingkod sa Panginoon ay pagmamahal dahil ang Panginoon ang unang nagmamahal sa atin. Dahil sa pagmamahal Niya ay natuto tayong magmamahal at natuto tayong maglilingkod sa Kaniya."



Rev. Ricardo B. Jacob
ASSOCIATE PASTOR | MAY 10, 2023



Bible Trivia Game

Complete the trivia game about the kings of the Bible by answering the questions. You can open your Bible to find the answers. The first three to answer correctly will get a free bookmark and pencil. Present your VOV copy to Sis. Aira Tolentino.

1. Who was the first king of Israel? _____
2. What did King Solomon ask for in his dream? _____
3. What was David's job before he became king? _____
4. Which king built the first temple in Jerusalem? _____
5. Which king wanted to use Balaam to curse the Israelites? _____
6. Which king had Daniel thrown to the lions' den? _____
7. Which king saw a hand writing on the wall which was interpreted by Prophet Daniel? _____
8. Which prophet anointed David as king? _____
9. Which king gave Haman the permission to destroy the Judeans? _____
10. At the time of Jesus' birth, where did King Herod live? _____

1 Corinthians 3:7
(NKJV)

So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

Sunday Worship Service HIGHLIGHTS

The only time that you will experience the miracle of God is if you trusted God until the end.

Gusto mo ng milagro? Magtiwala ka sa Diyos.

Tinawag tayo ng Diyos upang gamitin at hindi upang gamitin natin ang Diyos.

Ang isang taong ligtas kailanman ay hindi aalis sa Diyos. Pero kapag ang tao ay nagkukunwari lang maniwala sa Diyos, kapag may trials ay hindi mo na siya makikita.

We come here to church to look for Jesus. We do not come to look for anybody else.

We are not called by God to do the good or bad. We are called to discover the truth.



Rev. Dr. William G. Sy

HEAD PASTOR

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE | JUNE 25, 2023

THE TRUTH ABOUT ONLINE LOAN



BE VIGILANT, BE AWARE

Digitalization brought new opportunities in this age and time. With almost everything accessible online, you can process transactions or even share posts faster than a snap of a finger or a blink of an eye. Despite the plethora of benefits digital technologies carry, especially in the area of sharing the Gospel using different media, on the flipside of the coin are traps and other compromising risks that the enemy is waiting for Christians to cross over. One of which is **online loan** or **online lending**.



Online lending and its false promise of relief



American Express, a financial corporation that operates worldwide, describes online lending as any type of loan that is not directly sourced from a traditional bank. What makes online lending so appealing? It's easy money! It is a convenient option when you need money quickly, offering a straightforward process than that of a bank.

What happens if you fail to settle your loan?

GMA News once featured how lenders **harass** and **humiliate their debtors** through text messages and Facebook messenger. It is common for them to **threaten their debtors** by saying that they will be posted on social media as 'scammers' until the debt is paid together with an **unreasonable interest**. Some even drive to a debtor's home to personally collect settlements. True enough, in a snap of a finger or a blink of an eye, your integrity and testimony will be tainted.



In times of financial struggles, remember how the Lord provides for His people's needs. May the wisdom of God guide you through your endeavors. Seek your pastor's counsel or advice. Be aware of the enemy's schemes and be vigilant enough not to get trapped.

And David said to his son Solomon, "Be strong and of good courage, and do it; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord God—my God—will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord."

1 Chronicles 28:20 (NKJV)

You must be...

>> from page 1

II. Why do we need to be born again?

Jesus emphasized the necessity of being born again (v. 3), "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

The word "kingdom of God" is no longer a mystery for Jewish people as it is already part of their belief. But to be a proper subject in God's kingdom, you have to be subject to the King, and that is what everybody is waiting for, the coming of the Messiah as prophesied. They cannot recognize Jesus (the Son of God) and understand the spiritual truth He is saying since their minds are set on strict observance to their religious practices.

Romans 8:6-8

⁶For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. ⁷Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

To see the kingdom of God, we need a radical transformation (to be born again), not behavioral modification. Religion is man's tool to transform their behavior into its doctrines. Since religion is based on human works, it cannot reconcile us with God.

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not

of works, lest anyone should boast.

Nicodemus believed in the words of Jesus but realized his position. He was saying, "I am an old man, I can't start all over. It's too late. I've gone too far in my religious system to start over." So, Jesus further explained.

III. How to be born again?

Jesus explained the process of being born again (v. 5), "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit."

Water symbolizes the Holy Spirit. It is translated as (born of water, even the Spirit). There is no other way that a physical man can be born into spirit unless by the Spirit.

(v. 6) Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. The process of being born of the Spirit depends solely from God.

Prophet Ezekiel predicted a time when God would cleanse His people from their sins, give them a new heart and new spirit, and put His Spirit within them so that they would walk in obedience to His Word. That promise was fulfilled in Jesus when He ratified the New Covenant with His blood and sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in all that believe in Him.

Ezekiel 36:25-27

²⁵Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of

stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Nicodemus, who knew the Old Testament, should have connected Ezekiel's prophecy with Jesus' words (v. 3), "Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Being born physically as a Jew, in our terms, or into a Christian family is not enough. There must be a second birth that cleanses us from sin and creates new life through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion

Being born again has its signs that we can observe:

- Faith in Christ and His promise of eternal life;
- Love for God;
- Love for God's people and for all people;
- A new desire for the things of God;

- Thankfulness to God for His abundant mercy in Christ;
- Hunger for God's Word; and
- Hatred of sin and a desire for holiness.

You will have new desires for God that you did not have before the new birth. It is not that you will never desire again to sin, but rather that the new direction of your life will be marked by these new desires that come from the new birth.

Romans 8:9-11

⁹But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. ¹⁰And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

SERMON NOTES

Write the points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.

SHARE HIS WORD



For UCF updates, prayer requests, testimonies, live broadcasts, and replay of church services and gatherings, follow us on our social media accounts.



CONTACT US

UCF WORSHIP CENTER
#17 Highlight St., Area 4,
Fourth Estate Subd., Parañaque City

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Sundays at 9:00AM

MIDWEEK SERVICE
Thursdays at 7:00PM

DAILY PRAYER
at 6:00PM

Scan these QR codes to watch the replays of the UCF Sunday Worship Services



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