

Come and See

Week 3: For teens

What does being born again mean?

Like taking everything away and just starting anew, I would say. Just starting again, yeah.

It's to be born again in the faith of God.

Being born again, it's like so you can start afresh without being known for what you did.

Born again is when you're like born again, maybe as like a Christian and you've like got rid of all your bad habits and started like following the Lord and stuff.

I think it just means stepping into a new life, stepping into something more, for your future because you're not literally getting born again, you're still you, but it's just now you have more purpose or you know where you're going.

What does it look like to offer your life to God?

To offer your life to God...

You give your commitment and your heart to God and he gives you happiness in life.

Ooh, kind of joy in a way, sort of goodness. It's a tricky one, I think so, yeah.

To acknowledge what he has planned for you and try and live out what he says and his will in the best way you can.

To put all of your faith in him and don't worry about what anyone else says and just trust in him.

It's when you might show up to church for the first time just to see it and then you get a habit of it because you really enjoy it and just keep going.

I think it's just like listening to him really because it can look different for everyone and anyone so it's just listening to like out for any signs he might be giving you on what you should do next with your life.

How does it change your life?

It can change life for many people because maybe I've been going through mental health problems, depression, and then they go to the church and they just feel better.

It means that you have to have faith in him.

It's made me feel much, you know, much more confident in myself.

I think he just sort of makes it a happier place to be.

It can change your life in ways you don't expect. Like, it can tell you to go places or do something that before you'd be like, nah, I ain't doing that. And then so it can take you to places physically as well as like emotionally and spiritually. It can like transport you to somewhere like better, like in a better state of mind and in like closer to outward people as well as a relationship with God. It can be like strengthen connections with other people as well.

I think it has a positive impact. It's opened up my life a lot more to a lot more people and it's definitely made me happier. I know more people now and I feel more part of the community which is nice.

The Waters of Salvation

Laverne

Today we're on week three and we're actually looking at the waters of salvation. Now I know with that some of yous may have heard of the term being born again which is not familiar to most. Mark what does that mean being born again?

Mark

Well that little phrase born again sometimes it's getting a bit of bad rep isn't it people almost use it as a throwaway you're not a born again Christian are you?

But actually that little phrase Jesus used it it was one of his phrases to describe what does it look like when you actually become a follower of Jesus?

And he was to this guy called Nicodemus, he was a really he was a great religious guy knew everything ,and he told this Nicodemus guy you might know all religious stuff, but that's not enough. Actually, if you want to experience God in your life, you need to be born again.

And at that point Nicodemus is going, Jesus, don't really understand what you're saying. How can that actually happen? And then Jesus says, no, you have to be born physically as a baby born of water, but you need to be born of the spirit.

And he says, born again is when we become spiritually alive. And so when I became a Christian, and actually when people step into the Christian faith, we're all born again because we're all saying in that moment, or it might even be a process, but in that moment, we're saying, 'God, I want you to be number one in my life, and I need a new life'.

And so that's something that happens to actually all of us as Christians. We are born again. And so when we sort of project from that or look forward, what was that, what difference does that make for your life actually in terms of you being born again or how does that change your life?

Laverne

Yeah, I know we heard some young people speak about how it changed their life being born again and you know this salvation, water cleansing. I suppose for me, I was young when I became a Christian.

I think actually the process was I was a very angry young person. I was always a bit miserable, really down, just needed someone to talk to. And actually being born again, was like this light went off and it was amazing.

And I actually realized that actually I could now talk to this Savior, this God that I thought was so far away and realized actually He's right here with me.

And lots of things changed. I became a different person, to the point where people recognized - even my teachers, who were very grateful for that. I was changed and born again because I became quite nice in the classroom and actually friendly showing kindness, compassion, so yeah it comes out in a lot of ways which is so great.

I think for me I would love to ask you guys, for those who have become Christians, born again even, how has it changed your life? How do you think you are now? Are you different to what you were before? Do you talk to the Lord more?

I think I'd like to ask you all that, and we will see them again next week - we'll see you again next week.

Mark

See you next week.