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# A Year in the Word

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## A Year in the Word: Start Here: Part 1

### Small Group Questions: Faith Starts Here

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#### Read

John 1:1 –5, 3:1–18, and 20:30 –31, and Ezekiel 36:25–26

#### Reflect

In John 3, Nicodemus the Pharisee comes to Jesus at night. Nicodemus does not understand what Jesus means when he says that no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born again. Jesus also says that to enter the Kingdom of God, they must be born of water and the Spirit. What do you think it means to be born of water and the Spirit?

Pastor Josh Surratt gives us several starting point questions about Christianity:

1. Who is Jesus?
  - a. Jesus is LOGOS.
    - i. Who is Jesus to you? How do you see him, and why? Do you see him as life-giving or condemning?
    - ii. What does the “Word became flesh” mean?
  - b. Jesus is life.
    - i. When have you looked for life in dead places?
    - ii. Is there an area of your life that feels dead? Do you believe Jesus can bring it back to life?
  - c. Jesus is light.
    - i. How have you seen people try to use darkness to fix darkness?
    - ii. Give an example of someone countering darkness with light?
    - iii. How are you serving as a light to others? What could you do right now to be a light in darkness?
2. How can I be born again?
  - a. Admit my need for a fresh start.
    - i. Would you say the phrase, “born again,” has a good or bad connotation? Explain.
    - ii. Do you think you *need* to be born again? Why or why not?
    - iii. Have you been born again? If so, what was your experience?
    - iv. In what area(s) could you use a fresh start?
    - v. In what areas might your heart be hardened like stone?
    - vi. Have you opened your heart to God?
  - b. Put my faith in Jesus.
    - i. How have you tried to make it on your own? How would you define active surrender?
  - c. Receive new life.
    - i. Have you received the gift Jesus offers? What step of faith do you need to take next?
    - ii. How are you helping others to know Jesus?

**Respond:** Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?