

# Family TableTalk

Conversation 72

## Nic @ Night!

read

*John 3:1-16; 7:45-52, 19:38-42*

think

Nicodemus shows up in just three places in the Bible - all in John - with each time being considerably different than the one before. In John 3, it is clear that the Pharisee does not want to be seen talking with this controversial Rabbi, since he “came to Jesus at night.” In John 7, we see him at a meeting of the religious leaders, who were looking for ways to arrest Jesus. Instead of hiding in the shadows like before, Nicodemus now speaks up in front of his colleagues. Though he doesn’t indicate that he is a follower yet, Nicodemus nonetheless speaks up on behalf of Jesus to ensure that He is given a fair hearing. By the time we see Nicodemus in John 19, he is fully committed to Christ and demonstrates it by joining a fellow disciple in preparing the crucified body of Jesus for burial at great cost. In three short passages, he goes from being curious, to considering, to committed. He went from worrying about what people thought of him if he followed Jesus, to risking his life for his newfound Savior.

We are all in different places in our walk with Jesus, but if you had to rate your own boldness about your faith using Nicodemus’s progression as the yardstick, where would you place yourself? Wherever you see yourself, God is calling us all to grow in our love and devotion to the One who loved us so much that He sacrificed his life for us.

apply

- Would you describe your faith as closer to Nic @ night? (John 3) Nic @ fight? (John 7) Or Nic in the light? (John 19)
- Where would you like to be?
- Why do you think Nicodemus grew so much in his boldness in just under three years?

pray

Lord, we thank you for the witness of Nicodemus. We thank you for his growth and boldness for you. Help us to take small steps each day to be similar witnesses that others may see the beauty of Jesus and understand the good news of the gospel.

by **Brett Wirebaugh**

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