

Table Manners: Nicodemus

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July 21, 2019

Reflection & Discussion Questions

It's easy to assume we already know ourselves

This can be a dangerous assumption because it doesn't take into account our enormous capacity for self-deception.

- *How have you seen this to be true in your life?
- *What have you recently learned about yourself?

Nicodemus and others like him are curious, insightful, have great focus and are extremely interested finding out why and how things work.

He could be scattered, preoccupied with his thoughts, withdrawn or struggle to understand emotions.

- *Do you see yourself or someone you know in Nicodemus?
- *What positive and negative characteristics do you resonate with?

Nicodemus and others like him could greatly benefit from sharing in community and leaning into this verse

Mark 12:30 (NIV)

³⁰ *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.*

- *What does this verse say to you? How could it be helpful to someone like Nicodemus?
- *Who can you share your feelings, fears, and hopes with? What's been hard about sharing?

People like Nicodemus need us to remind them there is room at the table for their needs

- *What is great and helpful about having someone like Nicodemus at the table?
- *What can be frustrating about sitting with him?

Peter – focused on freedom and adventure

Paul – focused on doing good and being good

Joseph – focused on the desire to be unique

Rebekah – focused on loyalty and security

Jacob – focused on success and accomplishments

Deborah – focused on power and justice

Martha – focused on helping and being indispensable

Nicodemus – focused on knowledge and being right

- *What conflicts could arise between a Nicodemus type and some of these others?
- *How could this type benefit one of the other personalities we've talked about?

Jesus wants to transform your life by offering rebirth.

This faith and trust is not just a one-time statement, but something we put our faith in daily.

*What has this daily faith looked like in your journey?

*How has the gift of community helped you walk with Jesus?