#5 of 9 — Study & Declare God's Word

John 3:2-36 (NLT, NIV)

After dark one evening, Nicodemus came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you." Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God."

"What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?"

Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.

"How are these things possible?" Nicodemus asked.

If you don't believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man has come down from heaven.

"For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

"There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. But those who do what is right come to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants.

At this time, John the Baptist was baptizing. John's disciples came to him and said, "Rabbi, the man you met on the other side of the Jordan River, the one you identified as the Messiah, is also baptizing people. And everybody is going to him instead of coming to us."

John replied, "No one can receive anything unless God gives it from heaven. You yourselves know how plainly I told you, 'I am not the Messiah. I am only here to prepare the way for him.' It is the bridegroom who marries the bride, and the best man is simply glad to stand with him and hear his vows. Therefore, I am filled with joy at his success. He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less. "He has come from above and is greater than anyone else. We are of the earth, and we speak of earthly things, but he has come from heaven and is greater than anyone else. He testifies about what he has seen and heard, but how few believe what he tells them! Anyone who accepts his testimony can affirm that God is true. For he is sent by God. He speaks God's words, for God gives him the Spirit without limit. The Father loves his Son and has put everything into his hands."

The prayers in this folder are excerpts from the book, **Praying Through the New Testament.** These prayers sound like Scripture because they are formed from Scripture.

In your own life, as you go from task to task throughout your day, you might often breathe a short prayer to God. Your prayers may jump from person to person as they come to mind, and from need to need. You might burst into a song of praise.

The Scripture-based prayers in this folder are similar to this. The prayer subject often changes, and the person for whom you pray may change often too.

These Scripture-based prayers are not the only way to pray, but they are a wonderful way to pray—an effective way to pray Scripture into the lives of others.

You will find this way of praying especially helpful when you pray for family members and others for whom you pray on a regular basis. You will also find yourself praying this way for people you don't even know.

Jesus said,
"My Temple will be called
A House of Prayer."
Matthew 21:13

Read Ponder Pray

Study God's Word
Speak out God's Word
Pray God's Word
Let's Sing God's Word

praying scripture prayers

provide the practical help and inspiration we all need to pray more consistently and effectively.

Visit scriptureprayers.ca for easy-to-use Downloads to assist you in praying Scripture prayers for yourself, your loved ones, and for those you don't even know.

Scripture-based prayers can put into words the deep desires we carry in our hearts for others.

Pray them with thanksgiving in your heart, and watch to see what God does —not only in you, but also in others.

Use this Bible Reading and Prayer HandOut in a variety of ways.
Here Are Some Guidelines:

1. Read the Bible passage on the back of the folder. Ponder and study it. Underline the main theme of each paragraph. This will lead to praying God's Word.
2. On the inside of the folder, pray the *REQUESTS, PRAYERS & THANKSGIVING* prayers for yourself. Also pray spontaneous prayers along these themes.
3. Now pray the *INTERCESSION* prayers for others in the same way.
4. Choose praise songs to SING God's Word.
   (NOTE: If you are following this study-prayer time on your own, pray the prayers aloud. It is good to hear your voice speaking to God).

Based on John 3:2-36

HEAVENLY FATHER, thank You for sending Jesus, Your Son, into the world. Thank You for Your Word. **Thank You** for showing me that I must be born from above by Your Spirit in order to see the Kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus, thank You for giving me new life from heaven by the power of Your Holy Spirit.

Father, thank You for loving me so much that You gave Your only Son to die for me. Because I believe in Jesus, I will not perish, but have Everlasting Life. Thank You that You did not send Your Son into the world to condemn me, but to save me.

Jesus, I believe in You. Because I believe in You, judgment is not waiting for me. I am so grateful.

LORD JESUS, thank You that Your Word is clear: If I do not trust You to save me, I am already judged for not believing in You, the only Son of God. **Thank You** that You were sent from heaven by Your Father to be the Light. Before I believed in You, I loved darkness more than the light because I was doing things that were wrong. I hated the light, because I wanted to live my own way. I stayed away from the light for fear that my sins would be exposed, and I would be punished. But now I belong to You. I am so thankful.

Jesus, Your Word is true. If I want to do what is right, I will gladly come to the Light. Thank You for drawing me to You.

FATHER IN HEAVEN, You are the One who chose the work You want me to do—and I am grateful. Empower me to do what You want me to do.

Jesus, thank You for filling me with joy when I see others praise You. Keep me mindful that You must become more and more important, and that I must become less and less important.

Jesus, You are so great. You are the greatest One of all. You came from heaven to tell us what You have seen and heard from Your Father. Keep me aware that as I believe, I will know that Your Word is true.

Lord Jesus, You were sent from heaven by God. You spoke His Word because God's Spirit is on You without measure. Your Father loves You, and He has given You authority over everything. I praise You.

Based on John 3:2-36

LORD JESUS, I ask You to work in the heart of (SALVATION). Reveal to him/her that You are the Son of God. Lead him/her to ask You to forgive his/her sins. Work in him/her—so that he/she will be born from above by Your Spirit—and will see and enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Lord Jesus, reveal to (SALVATION) that You came from heaven to speak about Your Father and to deliver His message. I pray that (SALVATION) will put his/her trust in You, and receive Eternal Life.

HEAVENLY FATHER, open the heart of (SALVATION) to thank You for loving him/her so much that You gave Your only Son to die for him/her—and that if he/she believes in You, he/she will not perish but have Eternal Life.

JESUS, reveal to (SALVATION) that You did not come into the world to judge him/her, but to save him/her. Show him/her that he/she is already judged for not believing in You—the only Son of God. Reveal to (SALVATION) that you are God's light who came into the world. Lead him/her to open his/her heart to You and to receive You.

Jesus, I ask You to touch the heart of (WITNESS). Lead him/her to praise You—because You are the greatest of all. Remind him/her that You came from heaven to speak of what You have seen and heard from Your Father.

Father, I ask You to make (DISCIPLE) aware that You are the One who decides what he/she has or does not have. Remind him/her that he/she doesn't have anything unless You give it. Help him/her to live each day knowing that You must become more important, and that he/she must become less important. Work in him/her to live this way so that he/she will experience Your true joy.

LORD Jesus, I ask You to make (SALVATION) aware that Your Word is true. The words You speak are Your Father's because His fullness dwells in You. Work in (SALVATION) to believe everything You say.

Father, make (SALVATION) aware that You have given all power to Your Son, and that if he/she believes in You, he/she has Eternal Life.