



**Sermon Outline**  
**June 22, 2025**  
**Pastor Bryan Myers**

**Nicodemus:**  
*Curiosity to Courage*

**John 3, 7, 19**

\* **Nicodemus belonged to a powerful religious group known as the Pharisees who were very \_\_\_\_\_.**

\* **Religion is often the \_\_\_\_\_ of the human heart.**

\* **Religion = \_\_\_\_\_. Christianity = \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Galatians 2:16b** - ...by the works of the law no one will be justified.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** - For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.

\* **It's easy to fall prey to becoming religious, because it puts \_\_\_\_\_ in charge. Grace puts \_\_\_\_\_ in charge.**

\* **The Pharisees thought they had it all \_\_\_\_\_ when they really had it all \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Three serious pharisaical infractions:**

**1. Pride and Religious \_\_\_\_\_**

**Luke 18:11-12** - The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: "God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get."

**2. Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_**

**Matthew 23:13** - Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the door of the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.

**3. \_\_\_\_\_**

**Matthew 23:2-3** - The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for **they do not practice what they preach.**

**Nicodemus' spiritual journey in reverse:**

**3. He \_\_\_\_\_ identified with Jesus in His death. John 19:38-42**

**John 19:39** - He (Joseph of Arimathea) was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds.

**2. He \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus amongst his peers and colleagues. John 7:50-52**

**John 7:50-51** - Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, "Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?"

**1. He \_\_\_\_\_ approached Jesus to engage in a theological discussion. - John 3:1-21**

**John 3:2-3** - He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

\* **Nicodemus became one of the first people to ever hear the \_\_\_\_\_.**

**John 3:16** - For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

\* **Being "born again" means a transformational change has taken place \_\_\_\_\_.**