

Family Ministry Life Group Curriculum

APRIL 2026 - Convert Week 1

In your meetings this month, you'll be using a discussion guide based on John Piper's Finally Alive. You do not need the book for any part of the discussion guide. There is a link to a free PDF download of the book below, and it can always be purchased on Amazon or through Desiring God's website.

This discussion guide can also be found on www.tsf-church.com. on the Family Resources page. Please follow this discussion guide so your group can get the most out of the session each time you meet!

Finally Alive

John Piper

Free book download:

<https://document.desiringgod.org/finally-alive-en.pdf?ts=1446647305>

WEEK 1- Born Again

1- Christians use a lot of language to talk about what it means to become a Christian. What are some words and phrases we use when we talk about becoming a Christian?

2- Read John 3:1-10. Here, Jesus has a prolonged interaction with a Jewish religious leader who is at least curious about what it might mean to become a follower of Christ. He's probably approaching Jesus like a religious teacher and Nicodemus is trying to understand Jesus' take on Jewish religion, teachings, etc. What are some things that immediately stand out to you from this passage? What phrases or ideas are strange and would likely be confusing to someone who is new to Jesus and his teachings?

3- In this passage, what are some different phrases and words Jesus uses to describe what it looks like when we first respond to the gospel?

4- Jesus describes to Nicodemus what it means to receive "new birth", and its shocking him and to us! Jesus tells him new birth is not 1) new religion, but new life, and 2) its not just affirming that Jesus is supernatural but receiving the supernatural inside yourself and 3) its not reformation of who you already are, but a completely new life in you, a new you, a new human nature. What is hard to understand about those ideas? What is appealing?

5- Read John 3:3, 5, 8 & 36. What is the connection between the Holy Spirit, belief, Jesus, and the new life?
Discuss

We are born by the Holy Spirit into new life by union with Christ through belief in Jesus' work, life and resurrection.

6- Read Ezekiel 36:24-28. What overlap is there between this Ezekiel passage and John 3? What does it mean to be born of water and Spirit?

What did the ritual cleaning and washings in the Old Testament represent? How was Jesus using the idea of "water birth" with Nicodemus? If you're born by water, why do you need to be born by the Spirit?

Water= cleansing. Forgiveness and removal of sin.

Spirit= recreation. You are still you, but you're a whole new you! (heart of flesh v heart of stone)

8- How might these understandings about what happens when you are born again change how you pray, live and approach those in your life who have not received Christ? What new urgency must we have as we interact with those who are not Christians?

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APRIL 2026 - CONVERT Week 2

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WEEK 2- Why must we be born again?

1- Have you ever thought about why people must be born again? Or who must be born again? Discuss with the group now; determine as many different reasons as you can why people must be born again, and talk about who must be born again.

2- Read 1 John 1:1-10. What is this passage communicating about why we must be born again?

3- We need to come to a full realization of who we are without Christ. We are not simply victims of other people's sins or of cosmic forces that unfairly trap us in our sins. We are willing participants in our lostness, our sinfulness, our internal deadness. Read the following scriptures and fill in the statement, "Apart from the new birth of Jesus, we _____"

Rom 6:17; Eph 2:1-2; 2 Tim 2:24-26; Rom 7:18; John 3:19-20; Rom 8:7-8)

Put them all together, and what is revealed about our condition without the new birth?

4- It becomes clear that we don't need a renovation, we need a heart demolition! We need to be completely undone and remade. Read 1 John 3:1-2 and list as many things that you can find there about being born again.

5- We are called God's children. What does that mean about who we were before we received the new birth? What does that mean for us today and for eternity?

6- We receive the greatness of God's love. Why would God love us before we were reborn? How do we receive the fulness of God's love when we are reborn?

7- We'll be made new- fully and completely. In what ways will we be perfected when we see Jesus? What does it mean to be made like him?

8- So, in light of all of this, why must we be born again? Try to state in the positive and the negative- "If you are born again, this is true...." "If you are not born again, this will be true....."

9- Stop and lead your group through a response to the gospel, the good news of who Jesus was, what he did and his resurrection. "You must be born again" is what Jesus said in John 3- and that can happen right now! Lead the group in a moment to respond in faith to the gospel and be born again, if they never have.