

(Used this as a Bible Study/small group format for Christmas Day)

## Letters of Life and Salvation

*Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. Every **Red Letter** is there to draw you to Him.  
Have you ever been saved from death or serious injury? How did it feel?  
How does that compare to the eternal salvation won for you by Jesus?*

“3 In reply Jesus declared, “**I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.**”

4 “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!”

5 Jesus answered, “**I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.**”

9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

10 “**You are Israel’s teacher,**” said Jesus, “**and do you not understand these things? 11 I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. 12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? 13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. 14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.** (John 3:3–14 NIV)

These are the **Red Letters** with Nicodemus that come before the familiar John 3:16. How do they compliment that verse?

Who is the Author of life? Who is the Author of re-birth?

“6 Jesus answered, “**I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.**” (John 14:6–7 NIV)

Talk about the exclusivity of Christ. Do any other religions claim to have the exclusive way to God?

When somebody makes a claim that he is right and everybody else is wrong, how do you have to evaluate it?

12 “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

14 “Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. 15 Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

16 “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”

17 The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.

18 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. 19 And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

20 He who testifies to these things says, “**Yes, I am coming soon.**” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.” (Revelation 22:12–20 NIV)

Does it seem to you as if Christ is coming “soon” (2 Peter 3:8)?

What is comforting about these last **Red Letters**?

What is frightening?

Talk about some of the things you’ve learned overall by studying the **Red Letters** this closely.

Is there anything new you’ve learned about Jesus?

Anything you had to “unlearn”?