

## UNTANGLED: UNTANGLING MY RELIGION

For the week of September 8, 2019

Full message available at [highpoint.church/currentseries](https://highpoint.church/currentseries)

### GOAL:

To see how religion enslaves, but Jesus saves, and the gospel untangles us.

### GET GOING:

- What's been your experience with religion? Good or bad? What comes to mind when you hear the word "religion?"
- It's true that without the right motivation, religion can enslave us. Have you ever felt like you're just going through the motions in your faith?
- Nicodemus was a very religious man, trying his best to please God by following the rules. Can you identify with him at all? If so, what about his story resonates with you?
- To untangle his religion, Nicodemus came to Jesus, submitted to His teaching, and spent time with Him. How are you doing in spending time with Jesus? How often do you read your Bible and pray? Rate yourself on a scale of 1 (no time at all) to 5 (all my time).

### MEMORY VERSE:

*"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12).*



## KEEP GROWING:

- Jesus presented Nicodemus with an idea that was hard to understand; being born again. What teachings of Jesus have been hard for you to grasp as you grow in your faith?
- When Jesus says, *“unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God,”* what does He mean? (John 3:5) Is Jesus saying one has to be baptized to get to Heaven? What other verses could you reference on this topic?
- This story of Nicodemus from John 3:1-14, prefaces arguably the most well known verse of the Bible: John 3:16, which says, *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in his should not perish but have eternal life.”* How does knowing Nicodemus’s story help you understand this verse?
- If you’re feeling tangled up in religion, what steps can you take to get untangled?

## BONUS CHALLENGE:

Religion enslaves, Jesus saves, and the gospel untangles us. It’s much easier to get untangled in a community of believers. And, community at Highpoint is found through Growth Groups, so be sure to get in a group this year and grow in your faith with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Head to [www.highpoint.church/groupfinder](http://www.highpoint.church/groupfinder) to find the group that best fits your age and stage of life.

