

NICK & JOE SAVE EASTER
Easter Celebration
April 8, 2012

“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.”

John 3:16

**A right standing with God comes through _____,
not _____**

“¹Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member the Jewish ruling council. ²He 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.’ ³Jesus replied, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born again.’ ⁴‘How can anyone be born when they are old?’ Nicodemus asked. ‘Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!’ ⁵Jesus answered, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You 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? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, 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? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven – the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in Him. ¹⁶For 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.’” John 3:1-16

*“⁴⁵Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and the Pharisees, who asked them, ‘Why didn’t you bring him in?’ ⁴⁶‘No one ever spoke the way this man does,’ the guards replied. ⁴⁷‘You mean he has deceived you also?’ the Pharisees retorted. ⁴⁸‘Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him? ⁴⁹No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law – there is a curse on them.’ ⁵⁰ Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, ⁵¹‘Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?’ ⁵²They replied, ‘Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee.’”
John 7:45-52*

“³⁸Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate’s permission, he came and took the body away. ³⁹He 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. ⁴⁰Taking Jesus’ body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. ⁴¹At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.” John 19:38-42

NEXT WEEK:

