

## **Established and Abounding**

### **Established in:** the New Birth

- 1) From John 3:1-8, What can we learn about the new birth from the words of the Lord Jesus? What can we learn about Nicodemus from what he says and what is said about him? How is he like many people today?
- 2) What do we learn about the new birth from John 1:12-13?
- 3) Romans 6:1-13 describes the great work God did in enabling us to have a new life (be “born again”). How exactly did He do it? Paul also explains our part in taking advantage of God’s great work in our lives. He begins with us “knowing” what God has done and why (verse 6). Our next step is given as a command in verse 11 – what is it? Explain our final step in verses 12-13.
- 4) Before salvation, believers have only one nature inherited from Adam, but when we are saved, we are “born again” and given a second, “new” nature, sometimes referred to as the “new man”. What are the characteristics of these two natures from Ephesians 4:22-24?
- 5) If we have truly experienced such a radical transformation as the new birth, it will be visible in our new attitudes and actions. From 2 Corinthians 5:16-20 and 1 John 2:29, 3:9, 4:7 and 5:1, list some of these life differences and give examples of how they should be “visible”.

### **Abounding with Thanks for:** the New Birth

- 6) How is the new birth better than “self-reformation” or “turning over a new leaf”? Should this be cause for thanksgiving in your own life? How can you express this thanksgiving?

7) In the new birth, God addresses the age-old problem of sinners trying to live a life which is pleasing to God – and failing miserably. He did it by doing something which we could never do – He changed us “from the inside out”. In light of all this, and the very purpose for which He performed it (that we could now be pleasing to Him) , what should be our response?