



The Forgotten Art of Acceptance

August 22, 2021

Movement 1 - The Master Artist's [Plan](#)

John 3:1-9

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He 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."

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 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."

"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked...

John 4:4-10

Now he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.[a])

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

Do you see the accepting heart of God for lost and broken people ([like us](#))?

Movement 2 - The [Forgotten](#) Art

Can you ask God to help you see people as people and not as a group, not as their external appearance, not as their “worldly status” or their personal background?

Movement 3 - The Picture is Marred

Can you look at yourself and others as children loved by God and in need of grace?

Reclaiming God's Good Gift

How can Shoreline grow as a church that welcomes people from every walk of life, background, and culture?

Movement 5 - Becoming an Artist

What message do we communicate to the world if we can lovingly accept people who are very different from us?

Key Passages: John 3 and 4