"Awakening: What Does It Mean to Be Born Again?"

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1. Why do we need to be _____ _____?

Ephesians 2:1-3 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ...

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 He will punish those who do not know God ...

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2. Where does _____ begin?

John 3:1-5 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews...

Titus 3:5 he saved us, not because of works done by us ...

John 3:6-8 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ...

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3. _____ can we be born again?

John 3:9-12 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

Ezekiel 36:26-27 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.

John 3:13-17 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ...

1 Peter 1:23-25 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

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4. How can we _____ if we are born-again Christians?

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Ephesians 2:4-6 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus

Eph 1:13-14 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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Quotes

"He is intangible and invisible. But His work is more powerful than the most ferocious wind. The Spirit brings order out of chaos and beauty out of ugliness. He can transform a sin-blistered man into a paragon of virtue. The Spirit changes people. The Author of life is also the Transformer of life." — R.C. Sproul

"Every regeneration is really instantaneous. Its evidences, its outward manifestations may be gradual, but there must be a time when the man begins to live. There must be a period when the first ray of light darts on the opened eye. There must be a time when the man is condemned, and a period when he is not condemned. And there must be an instant when the change takes place." — C.H. Spurgeon

"The word regeneration simply means the act of God by which new life is imparted to the person who trusts Christ as his Savior. Justification gives me a righteous standing before God and adoption gives me an adult standing before God, but regeneration, or rebirth, gives me the life of God, the nature of God, in my very being." — Warren Wiersbe

Discussion Questions:

1. In your own words, how would you describe being born again?
2. What does regeneration mean?
3. Can you be a Christian without being baptized?
4. How do people become Christians?
5. Have you ever experienced being born again? Explain.
6. What is evidence of a regenerate heart?

Next Week's Message: "Assurance: Can I Know I'm Saved?"