

Suggested Answers for Leaders

Observation — What does it say?

1. (1) the Holy Spirit gives divine life, (2) gives a new nature, (3) makes us a new creation, and (4) moves us from spiritual death to spiritual life.
2. (1) A new heart, (2) resurrection from the dead, (3) spiritual circumcision, (4) new creation, and (5) new birth.
3. *Personal answer.*

Interpretation — What does it mean?

4. Because the human problem is not merely bad behavior or insufficient knowledge. Apart from Christ, people are spiritually dead and enemies of God.
5. Together they emphasize the radical nature of regeneration. God does not merely repair or improve the old life; He gives a whole new kind of life.
6. Human ancestry, human desire, and human effort are excluded as the source of the new birth. God alone is the source of new birth when we receive/believe in Christ.

Application — What do I do with this?

7. *Personal answer.*
8. *Personal answer.*
9. It replaces self-congratulation with humility and gratitude, since spiritual life is God's gracious gift, and not something we ourselves produce.
10. Evidence of regeneration includes an increasingly changed life characterized by newness, good works, obedience, and a changed intellect, will, and emotions.
11. Identify one area in which you need to respond in faith and obedience—such as turning from a particular sin, pursuing a good work, strengthening your trust in Christ, or expressing gratitude to God—and deliberately act on it.
12. *Personal answer.*