

WHO JESUS IS

week 3



NOTES

One of the greatest joys of becoming a Christian and a disciple is the relationship that can be developed with Jesus Christ, the Son of God. This relationship is vital to our spiritual growth and development in becoming a committed follower of Jesus Christ. As in life, we begin a relationship by determining who someone is. Jesus posed this powerful question about who He was to His disciples in Matthew 16:13-17

Matthew 16:13-14

¹⁴ *When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?*

¹⁵ *And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.*

Jesus poses the question to these disciples about who others say that He is. The disciples proceed to give Him a list of those whom people say that He is. Then, Jesus asks a far more important question

Matthew 16:15

He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

We must all answer the question about who Jesus is. Simon Peter, one of Christ's disciples, gets the correct answer in Matthew 16.

Matthew 16:16-17

¹⁶ *And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.*

¹⁷ *And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.*

One of the distinguishing factors of Christianity is that we believe that Jesus Christ is God. At the root of every false religion is a wrong view or belief about Jesus Christ. As we approach the idea of who Jesus is, we must keep in mind that everyone on this earth must decide what they will do with Jesus. It does not matter what others say about Jesus. Who have you decided that Jesus is what will you do with Him?

JESUS IS GOD

Understanding that Jesus is God is crucial to our faith. Scripture reveals this to us through several different ways.

HIS DEITY IS SHOWN THROUGH HIS NAMES

You've probably heard someone say, "There's a lot in a name." We have certain

standard that we expect when our name is

He is called God.

Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

John 20:28

And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

Hebrews 1:8

But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

He claims to be the Jehovah of the Old Testament.

John 8:58

Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

Exodus 3:14

And God said unto Moses, I Am that I Am: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I Am hath sent me unto you.

Compare John 17:5 to Isaiah 42:8

John 17:5

And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Isaiah 42:8

I am the Lord: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

He is called the Son of God.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

In our minds, we see this as inferior or unequal, but we must always understand the Bible in its cultural context. To the Jews, being the Son of God was a bold proclamation that was a serious offense.

John 5:17-18

17 But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.

18 Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had



broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.

HIS DEITY IS SHOWN THROUGH HIS WORKS.

Mankind has limitations. There are certain acts that we cannot accomplish and can only be accomplished by God Himself. Jesus Christ evidenced some of these works and actions while on earth and throughout Scripture.

He creates.

John 1:3

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

He preserves all things.

Hebrews 1:3

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.

He forgives sins.

Mark 2:7-11

⁷ *Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only.*

⁸ *And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts?*

⁹ *Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?*

¹⁰ *But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,)*

¹¹ *I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.*

He gives eternal life.

John 17:2

As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

HIS DEITY IS SHOWN THROUGH WORSHIP.

We worship that which we revere and respect. While on earth, there were instances recorded in the Bible where mankind recognized the uniqueness of Jesus Christ and could do nothing but worship.

Matthew 2:2

Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.



Matthew 14:33

Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

John 9:38

Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

Not only did mankind choose to accept the deity of Christ and worship, but God the Father actually commands the angels to worship.

Hebrews 1:6

And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.

The fact that the Bible takes the time to identify multiple occurrences where Jesus Christ is worshiped is important because the Bible protects the worship of God.

Luke 4:8

HIS DEITY IS SHOWN THROUGH ATTRIBUTES.

In our last lesson, we referenced some of the attributes that God the Father possesses. Some of the attributes can be maintained and developed by mankind, but some are non-communicable - meaning that a human can never acquire them. Jesus Christ demonstrated some of these non-communicable attributes while on earth.

Omnipotence

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Omniscience

John 16:30

Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee:by this we believe that thou camest forth from God.

Jesus also proved His omniscience by predicting His own death and His resurrection.

Matthew 16:21

From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief



priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Omnipresence

Matthew 28:20

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Eternality

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Immutability

Hebrews 13:8

For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens.

Holiness

Hebrews 7:26

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

The Bible clearly defends the case for Jesus Christ being God. Some would like to excuse Him as a good teacher or a prophet, but He was so much more. He was God in the flesh who came to save the world from their sins. Because He was God, it makes the sacrifice He made even greater!

JESUS IS THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD.

For Jesus to become our Saviour, there were certain steps that had to be taken. Jesus humbled Himself, became a man, and took the necessary steps become the living sacrifice for our sins.

Philippians 2:5-11

Let's take some to look at what steps the God of the universe took to become our Saviour.

HE CAME TO EARTH.

John 1:1, 14

Jesus entered the world through a virgin's womb keeping Him pure from man's bloodline.



Luke 1:26-36

This spectacular birth was prophesied hundred of years earlier by the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Let's take a moment to understand the word Immanuel mentioned in Isaiah 7:14. The form used in the Isaiah is the Old Testament equivalent to the New Testament word Emmanuel. The word actually means "God with us." Notice the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy.

Matthew 1:23

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Not only was Jesus' birth spectacular and prophesied, but even the birthplace of Jesus Christ was prophesied hundreds of years earlier.

Micah 5:2

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Why is it important that Jesus came to earth? Because Jesus came and lived and our world, He knows our feelings, needs, temptations. Not only does He know them, but His example shows us how we can conquer the affairs of this life.

Hebrews 4:15-16**HE DIED FOR US.**

God created a perfect world and a perfect relationship with mankind in Genesis. When man sinned, death and sin entered into the world and the perfect relationship with God was severed. For this relationship to be reunited, there had to be sacrifice given that would appease God the Father.

Romans 5:12

The payment for this sin is eternal death and separation from God.

Romans 6:23

In all of this, God chose to provide that sacrifice for our sins through His Son, Jesus Christ.



The deity of Christ is vital to the sacrifice He made. If Jesus would not have been God, He would simply be dying for His personal sins and not the sins of the world. Because He is God, His blood is sufficient for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:2

And he is the propitiation for our sins:and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

HE SAVES US.

After coming to earth and dying for our sins, the process of our salvation was not completed. Jesus will save us. The only step that has been left to us is our choice. The correct choice is made when we choose to turn from our self-effort and trust the work of Christ as enough.

Romans 10:13

In the first lesson, you shared your testimony of how you began your relationship with Jesus Christ. As we have examined these last several verses, if you have any doubt about your relationship with God through Jesus Christ, take the time to talk to your disciple and get it settled right now. It is one of the greatest decisions you can make.

If you have accepted Jesus Christ, the verse we have looked at in this section are a great place to start when sharing the Gospel with someone else.

JESUS IS RISEN.

The most spectacular proof of the deity of Christ is found in His resurrection.

Luke 24:1-7

The Bible gives us eyewitness accounts of His resurrection proving not only His deity, but His resurrected body.

Acts 1:3

1 Corinthians 15:6

The resurrection of Christ means that the Christian has conquered death and the grave.

2 Corinthians 5:8

How does the resurrection of Christ impact outlives on a daily basis?



JESUS WILL BUILD THE CHURCH.

In Matthew 16, Jesus stated that He would build the church around the fact that He was God. The payment for the church was made through His death on the cross

Matthew 16:18

Acts 20:28

Colossians 1:18

JESUS SHOULD BE OUR LORD.

When you accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, you entered into a relationship with Him. Following this relationship, He not only desires to be your Saviour, but He desires to be your Lord and Master.

Luke 6:46

John 14:15

James 1:22

CONVERSATION STARTER: What are some areas that you feel like God would want Him to hand over to Him? Allow your discipler to share some personal testimonies about how God has blessed when they have given something God.

Living in light of the truth about who Jesus is has important applications in the Christian life:

Because Jesus is God, commit to rejecting any doctrine or teacher who questions the deity of Christ. We live in a world of constant change. Many have tried to disprove the deity of Christ making Him just another historical figure. When we lower the position of Christ, we demean His work and miss the power of His wonderful sacrifice. The Bible teaches that those who reject the teaching of the deity of Christ are actually of Satan.

Because Jesus is Savior, commit to sharing the salvation you have found with others. It would be considered selfish to hoard the cure to a disease to yourself after being cured. Through Jesus Christ, we have been given the cure for our sin and the gift of eternal life. Now we must find others who are searching and pass it on to them.

Because Jesus is risen, commit to continuing in your relationship with Him daily. Each year, the world celebrates a holiday on the calendar known as Easter. Many have forgotten that this special weekend was set to commemorate the resurrection of Christ. For the Christian, we can celebrate the resurrection everyday by communicating with our Risen Lord and allowing Him to communicate with us.



Choose to take full advantage of the resurrection by have the best relationship you can with Jesus Christ.

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