

Oct 4th Sermon Notes

The Message of Jesus
Who do you say I am?
Matthew 16:13-28

Walking through Matthew, spending most of our time in Matthew chapter 16. Beginning in verse 13, Jesus and His disciples are in a place called Caesarea Philippi.

Caesarea Philippi is a largely Gentile populated area, dominated by idols and false gods. "It's as if Jesus deliberately set Himself against the backdrop of the world's religions demanding to be compared to them and to have the verdict given in His favor."

Who do people say I am?

The cultural view

A google search of the name Jesus will give you millions of results. That's a lot of information about one guy!

Matthew 16:13-14

The highest human description can't explain who Jesus is

How many times do we show honor and respect to Jesus as a good man, but fall short of seeing Him for who He truly is?

We've seen what everyone else is saying about Him, but there's another element of His identity that's important...

Who does He say He is?

He wasn't depending on the opinion of others to define Himself either.

Who you are isn't determined by what other people think of you!

Jesus knew this and He knows exactly who He is!

All throughout Scripture Jesus confirms and describes who He is.

John 8:12-I am...the Light of the World

John 11:25-I am...the resurrection and the life

John 10:11-I am...the Good Shepherd

John 14:6-I am...the way, the truth, and the life

Mark 14:61...They asked the question, "Are you the Messiah?" ...His response...I am!

Who do you say I am?

Matthew 16:15-16

The personal view

With Jesus everything is personal

Jesus moves from what others think about Him, to what the disciples thought personally.

It doesn't matter what others think about Jesus; it only matters what you think! What someone else thinks of Jesus can't save you.

Christianity isn't knowing about Jesus; it's about knowing Jesus. Jesus demands a personal decision!

Who do **YOU** say He is? This is the most important question you will ever answer!

Takeaway: Knowing Him makes all the difference!

Memory verse: John 20:31

But these things are written so that you may believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and by believing you may have life in His name.

Ask your group;

- **What are some of the things you have heard culture say about Jesus? How does this shape your view of Him?**
- **When do you find yourself allowing culture to describe you most? How is that opposite or contrary to what Jesus says about you?**
- **What description of Jesus in the passages in John speak most to you?**
- **How does the truth of who Jesus is change how you live your life?**