

Who Is This Man?

God

March 17, 2024

As you engage in this discussion, follow the Spirit's leading and share your thoughts as you reflect on the message and the scriptures. Work through the discussion guide by reading Scripture and reflecting on a couple of questions and points from the message

Opening Question:

What descriptions do you use when you refer to yourself?

Read the following scriptures together:

Hebrews 4:14-15

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven,^[a] Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

John 14:7-10

If you really know me, you will know^[a] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.” Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Don’t you believe that I am in the Father and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work.

Scriptures referenced:

Matthew 13:41, Matthew 6:9, Matthew 11:28, John 14:9, Colossians 1:15

A FEW QUESTIONS TO PONDER DURING YOUR DISCUSSION:

- Was there something new you learned from this message?
- Did you find clarity in the descriptions of the titles for Jesus?
- Was there anything that challenged you?
- What encouraged you about this message?
- What implications does this title for Jesus have for your life?
- How did the message encourage you?

A FEW POINTS AND QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

The Son of Man, in the most basic sense, is a flesh and blood human being. **Is it easy for you to see Jesus this way?**

Jesus was tempted. The writer says he was tempted in every way we are. Jesus never sinned, so He never gave in, but He was tempted. **Does knowing this change how you view your temptations?**

In Jewish literature, God referred to the Messiah as His servant and son, and God verbally called Jesus His son at His baptism and transfiguration. When father/son language is used for God and Jesus it is deeply and intimately connected. Jesus talked about such a close connection that the two were one, and Jesus understood Himself to be the manifestation of God as a human.

What defines Jesus is tension. He is both God and human, grace and truth. If you try to resolve it, then you lose who Jesus is. He is the fullness of two realities that often pull away from each other. Being a Christian, a follower of Jesus is learning to live in that same tension. **Are you tempted to try to resolve this tension by taking a side?**

Faith isn't having clear-cut answers to every situation; it is embracing the messiness of life with the trust that God is working. We enter the mess not with answers but with faith and hope. And we hold on to the tension that defined Jesus. Life and freedom only come when we take Jesus as He is and live within the same tension that defines Him.

CLOSING: PRAY FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR GROUP

As a group, spend time vocally praising God for the ways that He has shown you His presence this week.