

LifeGroup Discussion Guide

Week 1 - Who is Jesus?

How to use This Guide:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the discussion questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever wondered why we have four different Gospel accounts of the life of Jesus? What is the advantage of having four Gospels, all telling essentially the same story?
- How did Mark's missionary work with Paul and Barnabas and his association with Peter prepare him to write this Gospel?
- Underline all the times Mark uses the word "immediately" in verses 1:1-2:28. What do you think Mark was trying to convey about Jesus and His ministry by using the term repeatedly?
- What are the implications of Jesus' title "Christ" in the lives of His followers? What are the implications of His being "the Son of God"?
- Why did the demons and the Roman centurion recognize that Jesus was the Son of God before the resurrection, but His disciples did not? How does the disciples' slowness give hope for us and our loved ones?
- How does John the Baptist function as a transitional figure from the Old Testament to the new covenant?
- How do John and his preaching style compare with current notions of how to gain a following and grow a church? Do you think John would approve of the modern "prosperity gospel"?
- Why do you think John gained a large following? What was his message? How did that message contribute to his popularity and to his death?
- How is John's humble message about Christ similar to what we should tell others about Christ? How is our message different?
- God fulfilled His promise to send a messenger and send a Savior. What are some of the other promises of God that have not yet been fulfilled? How does Mark 1:1-8 encourage you concerning these promises?
- **What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?**
- **What did God say to you today through His Word? And what are you going to do about it!**

Next Steps

Who do you say that Jesus is? If you claim Jesus to be Lord of your life, do you actually live it out? Spend time this week prayerfully reflecting on living your life as a disciple. What sins do you need to repent and confess? What steps do you need to take to follow Christ.

Go to www.mycornerstone.org/next to learn more about your next step.

Keys to Understanding

Gospel - The Greek word translated as gospel means "a reward for bringing good news" or simply "good news." In His famous sermon at the synagogue in Nazareth, Jesus quoted Isaiah 61:1 to characterize the spirit of His ministry: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel [good news] to the poor" (Luke 4:18). The gospel is not a new plan of salvation; it is the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation that was begun through the nation of Israel, was completed in Jesus Christ, and is made known by the church. The gospel is the saving work of God in His Son Jesus Christ and a call to faith in Him. Jesus is more than a messenger of the gospel; He is the gospel. Therefore, the gospel is both a historical event and a personal relationship.
(Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary)