

Answering Jesus

“Who do you say that I am?”
Matthew 16

Jesus is everything it means to be _____.

John 1:1 (NKJV), “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God.”

Jesus is everything it means to be God. Why does that matter?

First, Jesus is the best qualified to _____ us about God.

Hebrews 1:1-2 (TEV), “In the past God spoke to our ancestors many times and in many ways through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us through his Son.”

John 14:9 (NIV), “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.”

Second, the sacrifice of Jesus was God paying our _____ himself.

Jesus is everything it means to be _____.

John 1:14 (NKJV), “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.”

Jesus is everything it means to be human. Why does that matter?

First, he is our e_____.

1 Peter 2:21 (NIV), “Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.”

Second, he is our e_____.

Hebrews 4:15-16 (NIV), “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

Jesus lives to bring our _____
to the Father’s attention.

Hebrews 7:25 (NIV), “He is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because *he always lives to intercede for them.*” Romans 8:34 (NIV), “Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also *interceding for us.*”

“Who do you say that I am?”
“You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.”
Matthew 16

Discussion Questions

Tom compared Jesus to a pearl diver who (1) left the heights of heaven, (2) descended to the depths of human experience, and (3) returned to heaven with treasure in his hand. Have someone read Philippians 2:5-11 for the group. Identify the words that describe (1) Christ's divinity and heavenly existence, (2) Christ's humanity and earthly experience, and (3) Christ's triumphant return to reign in heaven.

What did you think of C.S. Lewis's comments that are quoted on page 65? He said you don't have the option of calling Jesus a great moral teacher and ignoring his claims of being the God who made us and the God who deserves our worship. Lewis said that our only options when considering Jesus' claims was that he was insane (and therefore no great moral teacher) or he was who he claimed to be. What is your reaction to Lewis' options?

God the Son suffered pain, encountered temptation and did not give in to it, experienced rejection, and even endured torture and death. Does this awareness help you deal with the trials in your own life? If so, how?

Have someone read 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 to the group. Paul said that if we take away Christ's resurrection, we take away the very foundation of Christianity. Why is Christ's resurrection so important to faith?

Have someone read Hebrews 7:25 and Romans 8:34 to the group. The Bible reveals that Jesus is now at "the right hand" of the Father where he prays for us. What do you think Jesus is asking the father on your behalf at this period in your life?

This Week's Assignment

Read Chapters 11-13 in *The Anchor Course*

The Anchor Course



“I Believe in Jesus”