

the story

GOD'S STORY IS OUR STORY

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“ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say the Son of Man is?’

¹⁴ They replied, ‘Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.’

¹⁵ ‘But what about you?’ he asked. ‘Who do you say I am?’

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’

¹⁷ Jesus replied, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.’ ”

~ MATTHEW 16:13-18 (NIV)

The Place: Caesarea Philippi (Panias)

Known for: Worship of Greek god _____.

Named for: _____.

_____.

Jesus’ true identity is revealed as a shining light in one of the darkest places.

Who do people say Jesus (the Son of Man) is?

John the Baptist: Fiery preacher, _____ at all costs.

Elijah: Prophet of _____, signs and wonders.

Jeremiah: The weeping prophet, known for _____.

Jesus’ true identity reveals that he is All of the Above ... and More!

Peter's Confession: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Messiah; _____.

Fulfills all the promises.

Son of Man: Daniel 7:13-14, Comes in Power, Authority, Dominion and Glory.

“ the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” ~ MATTHEW 20:28 (NIV)

Son of the living God:

"Son" in the New Testament emphasizes Father and Son as same in _____.

Jesus' true identity reveals He is God with us and the rightful King.

So WHAT?

“ At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?'² He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. ³ And he said: 'Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵ And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.' ”

~ MATTHEW 18:1-5 (NIV)

Jesus' true identity means we are to follow Him with _____.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS *available on the APP* |     Google TV

- 1- In Matthew 16:13-18, people gave different answers about who Jesus was. If someone asked you today, "Who is Jesus to you?" what would your answer be? How has it changed over time?
- 2- Jesus revealed his identity at Caesarea Philippi, one of the darkest, most pagan places in Israel. What does that teach us about where and how we are called to live out our faith today? Can you think of a "dark place" where God may be calling you to be light?
- 3- Read Matthew 16:13. The sermon noted that some people prefer a "truth-telling Jesus," others a "miracle-working Jesus," and others a "compassionate Jesus." Which of these aspects of Jesus do you most naturally connect with? Which one do you sometimes overlook?
- 4- Peter confessed that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God. What does it mean to you that Jesus is not only Savior but also King? How does recognizing His kingship affect the way you live day to day?
- 5- In Matthew 18:1-5, Jesus said the greatest in the kingdom are those who become like children. What qualities of a child (trust, humility, dependence, joy, etc.) do you need to grow in your own faith journey?
- 6- The sermon asked not only "Who do you say Jesus is?" but also, "Who do you say Jesus is by your actions?" What is one way your life this week can more clearly reflect that Jesus is your King and your God?

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