



June 29th, 2025

Sermon: Who Do You Say I Am

Main text: Matthew 16:13-16

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does this story tell me about God?

2. What does this story tell me about people (or about myself)?

3. If this is God's word for my life, how will I obey it?

4. Who am I, going to tell?

Other, Key points questions to reflect on and discuss from Craig message:

Some Key take ways...

71% Adults in 2024 have positive view of Jesus in the United States.

In 2013 Times Magazine named Jesus Most influence person in History.

“Also, in 2013 Time magazine called Jesus the most influential person in history and he’s been on the cover of the magazine 23 times.”

Barna research – 2024 – 7 in 10 adults (71%) say they view Jesus positively, connecting him with words like forgiveness and compassion. People feel warmly toward Jesus, and we’re seeing a high degree of spiritual openness in America.

National post – Canadian research (Dec 2020) - about 73 per cent of Canadians have a positive view of Jesus, (In AB it’s 78% hold a positive view of Jesus; but the younger the demographic the lower the percentage of a positive view of Jesus)

A pointed question – ‘but what about you?’... – Matthew 16:15

How do you think the disciples were feeling in this moment?

Pop quiz! How well do you know me? What do you believe about me?

Bottom line - This passage puts the identity of Jesus on display, and it causes us to think about our own response... who do you say Jesus is?

Let's Consider Peter's journey with Jesus... the ups and downs of getting to know Jesus

- The call to follow him – Matthew 4
- Observing the healings, hearing the teachings... the sermon on the Mount
- Peter's recognition, yet lack of understanding about Jesus as the Messiah
- His denial, his reinstatement, his leadership (filled with the Spirit)

What can we learn about ourselves, from Peter's example?

- Ups and downs of following Jesus and not always fully understanding him...
- Consider when Peter walked on water with Jesus – Matthew 14:25-33
- As much as we'll be learning more about who Jesus is this summer, the true invitation is to trust him, even when we might not fully understand him. To keep our eyes fixed on him, even amidst the doubts, or storms, etc.

So – who do you say he is? He is the Messiah, the son of the living God, and even if you haven't fully grasped what that means... will you trust him and keep your eyes on him. Will you build your life on him?