

## Who is Jesus?

**John 1:1-13**

We say we are a church, “Where the love of Jesus is transforming lives!” But what do we actually mean by that? What is real transformation in a person’s life? What is love & what role does it play? Who is this Jesus?

Throughout this sermon series we will be answering these questions by looking at the life and ministry of Jesus, **as revealed in the gospel of John!**

Today, we will start with the question, “*Who is Jesus?*” Do you know the answer to that question, truly? Many of us would say that we do...

- **The disciples thought they knew him**, but when Jesus spoke and calmed the storm on the sea of Galilee, they said to each other, **“Who is this? Even the wind and waves obey him?”** - Mark 4:41
- The Apostle Peter thought he knew him, but when he tried to tell Jesus what he thought he should do, Jesus had to call him **“Satan”** in order to get his attention & reveal his true identity/purpose to Peter! -Mark 8:33
- **King Herod, of Judea, thought he could get rid of Jesus by beheading John the Baptist**, but when that didn’t work, he asked, **“I beheaded John. Who, then, is this I hear such things about?”** – Luke 9:9
- The scribes and Pharisees thought they knew him, but they too asked themselves, **“Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”** – Luke 5:21
- **All of Jerusalem thought they knew him**, but when he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey on what we call Palm Sunday, the people turned to one another and asked, **“Who is this?”** - Matthew 21:10

What do we think we know about Jesus, and where does that information come from? **Do we know the Jesus who is, as revealed in Holy Scripture, or do we only know what we have constructed in our own minds?**

When we want to truly get to know a person, we usually go to the source and ask certain questions, such as:

- Where are you from **(What is your origin story)?**
- **What do you do** (What we do often reveals much about who we are)?
- **What is your story** (Tell me about the things that make you who you are)?

We may not be able to sit down with Jesus over a cup of coffee, but we can get firsthand information about Him from those who were closest to Him.

Matthew & John were His disciples. Luke was Paul’s closest confidant & scribe. Mark was the same for the Apostle Peter! **These 4 accounts (gospels) are the best biographical records of the life & ministry of Jesus.**

If we want to know the Jesus who is, we start with these 4 gospels!

Matthew, Mark, and Luke approach answering the question of, “Who is Jesus”, very differently than the Apostle John. Both are correct, but John comes at answering this question from a very different starting point!

**Matthew, Mark, and Luke start with Jesus’ humanity** – his birth in Bethlehem, His human genealogy, the beginning of his earthly ministry.

**John pulls back the curtain to reveal who Jesus is from heaven’s perspective!** His focus is not Jesus the man, but Jesus the Divine!

In answering the “get to know you questions” about Jesus, Matthew, Mark, and Luke started with who he was as a man:

- Where is Jesus from? **He was born in Bethlehem & raised in Nazareth!**
- What did Jesus do? He was a carpenter, a teacher, a Rabi.
- What was Jesus’ story? He taught like no other, he healed the sick, he loved people where they were, and invited them into a new way of life!

John however, answers these “get to know you questions” differently:

- Where is Jesus from? **He has no origin story – He is the eternal Word!** He always was... He is from heaven... He is God!  
**“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”** - John 1:1-2
- What did Jesus do? **Jesus is the creator of all things – vs. 3!** **Jesus is the giver of all life – vs. 4!** **Jesus is the source of all light – vs. 5!**

John’s gospel sounds very similar to Genesis 1, and that is the point! John takes Jesus’ origin story, and works, back as far as we can take it!

- What was Jesus’ story? Jesus is divine! Jesus is God! There is no other like Him! **He is not limited by his humanity b/c He is the source of it all!**

How does John’s heavenly perspective of Jesus change your view of Him? How does knowing His divine nature change how you respond/live for Him?

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