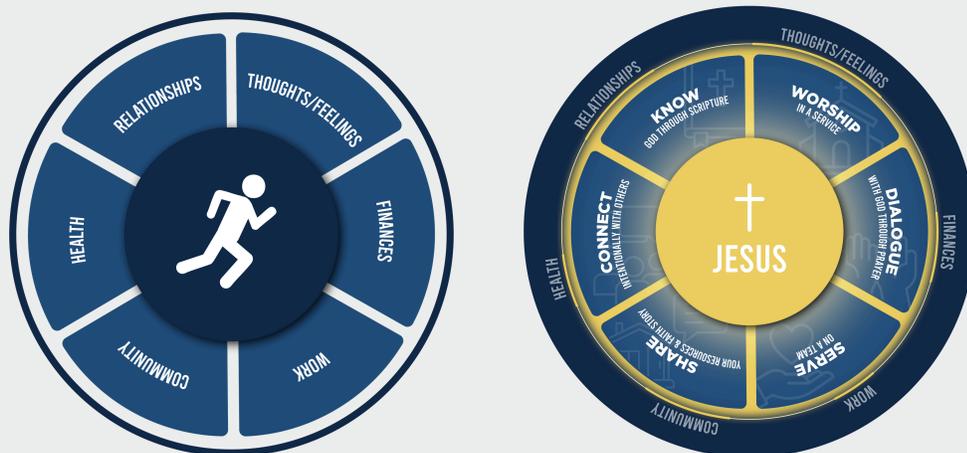


EMBARK | WEEK 2 | BELIEVE - WHO IS JESUS?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S THEME:

- Reflect on last week's theme: The Joy of Discipleship
- Review circle diagrams and John 10:10 "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."



Opening Reflection:

- What is a full life?
- Would anyone like to share something from their journaling?

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS: WHO IS JESUS?

KEY SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 16:13-16 (NIV)

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" He asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

BIG IDEA

True worship of Jesus requires believing in His identity as the Son of God and the Messiah.

DISCUSS

Let's unpack Peter's answer: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

- What did Peter mean by this?
- What would this have meant in that cultural and spiritual context?

PERSONAL STORY

TEACHING VIDEO

VIDEO RECAP & GROUP DISCUSSION

Jesus is one of the most influential figures in all of human history. Christianity centers on who Jesus is, not just on religious practice. Jesus directly asks: “*Who do you say I am?*” Jesus claimed to be God — leaving only three possibilities:

- **Liar** - He deceived others
- **Lunatic** - He was self-deceived
- **Lord** - He is who He says He is

If Jesus is God, then following Him fully becomes the only rational response.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION

- Who do the people around you (friends, family, culture) believe Jesus is?
- What have you personally believed about Jesus in the past?
- Why do you think Jesus came to earth?
- How does Peter’s response in Matthew 16 resonate with you today?

SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Who is Jesus according to the following:

- The Samaritan woman: **John 4:25-26**
- The high priest: **Mark 14:61-62**
- Isaiah’s prophecies: **Luke 4:18-21**
- The Angel announcing His birth: **Luke 2:11**
- God the Father at Jesus’ baptism: **Luke 3:21-22**

ACTION STEP

Who do *you* say Jesus is? Using the Scripture passages above and journal prompts on the following page, take time this week to reflect on what you truly believe about Jesus’ identity.

