



## SERMON REFLECTION GUIDE

Luke, Part 30: Jesus? - Luke 9:18-26 - June 15, 2025

### SERMON OUTLINE

Intro - disappointments and disqualifications litter the Christian leadership sphere. No denomination or tradition is exempt. We think we know someone....

It's hard to know who someone really is, but *it is of eternal importance to know who Jesus is.*

It has been a major theme of **Luke 1-9** to rightly reveal the person of Jesus.

Both insiders and outsiders ask: "Who is this guy?" (**Luke 8:25, 9:9**)

#### A. Jesus, Prophet? (**Luke 9:18-19**)

Side note: Jesus is always *praying* before critical events. (**3:21, 4:1, 4:42, 6:12, 9:18**)

Who do the crowds say that I am?

Jesus life/ministry recalls **John the Baptist** recently, and **Elijah** biblically. So, that's a guess.

Under the mist of spirituality, driving the mountain roads - Jesus might come off as a prophet, teacher, sage, mystic, or revolutionary. Does he allow us this middle ground?

#### B. Jesus, Christ? (**Luke 9:20-21**)

Hebrew Title: **מָשִׁיחַ (Mashiach)** - "Anointed One" - English Transliteration: Messiah

Greek Translation: **Χριστός (Christ)** - Peter's declaration is that Jesus is the "anointed one" promised in many ways throughout the OT.

**The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me...** Isaiah 61:1

This is a ground-shaking pronouncement - If this is true, the world will never be the same!

However, Jesus shushes the disciples, maintaining a "*Messianic Secret*" (**v. 21**), because the Jewish people have the wrong idea of what the Messiah will actually do.

#### C. Jesus, Crucified? (**Luke 9:22a**)

In all the OT promises about the Messiah, somehow **Isaiah 53** had been lost in the minds of most Jews - the concept that the Messiah would suffer or die was nonexistent.

However, Jesus says that "*the Son of Man must suffer...*"

He came to accomplish the Father's will in salvation. Which meant suffering and dying for sin.

*The only Christ there there is to confess is Christ crucified.*

#### D. Jesus, Risen? (**Luke 9:22b**)

The *conquering* Messiah is NOT wrong either though! Through suffering, the Messiah will be a *conqueror*, when he *conquers* death through the resurrection.

Luke is beginning to transition his narrative.

**Luke 1-9** - Jesus ministry in **Galilee**, introducing *the PERSON of Jesus* - he is the CHRIST

**Luke 10-24** - Jesus mission towards **Jerusalem**, revealing *the WORK of Jesus* - the CHRIST will suffer and rise again.

Does the person and work of Jesus reveal anything for how his followers will live?

#### E. Jesus, Followed? (**Luke 9:23-26**)

The dying Christ requires his followers to die as well. Following Jesus requires denial, cross-carrying, and even the "losing of life for Jesus' sake".

This just DOES NOT square at all with the American Christian experiment.

*"Jesus as sidekick"* - we hope he will enhance our experiences as we live our own lives however we wish.

What is worth trading for your soul? What is worth Jesus being ashamed of you?

*Personal response as I dealt with the heaviness of this text laid over my life.*



### **SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

1. How do you feel when you think you know someone and they turn out to be someone totally different?
2. What are the ways we come up short in our understanding of Jesus? Why does he not allow us middle ground when describing him?
3. What is so revolutionary about Peter's confession? Why does Jesus want the Messiah news to stay a secret?
4. Why is it necessary for the Christ to die and rise? Why was no one expecting this?
5. What does Jesus life and death mean for our lives and death when it comes to following him?
6. What is worth trading for your soul?