

LIFE GROUP GUIDE – Week Beginning Sunday 19th July 2026

KEY SCRIPTURES – Mark 14:53-65

This Week's BIG IDEA

Two of the titles attributed to Jesus in Mark's gospel are 'Son of God' and 'Son of Man'. Together they emphasize how Jesus is both fully God and fully human. However, we often get them the wrong way round. This becomes most clear when we look at Jesus' trial before the Sanhedrin.

'Son of Man' is Jesus' preferred way of referring to himself. It's this term that seems to have been the last straw for the high priest and led directly to Jesus' death, as it also did for Stephen in Acts 7. Jesus' reference to imagery associated with Daniel 7 helps us to unpick the full understanding of this somewhat enigmatic title.

Icebreaker (Optional)

What are some of the titles or nicknames that you've been referred to either now or in the past?

Getting into Scripture

Read Acts Mark 15:53-65

- Q1. What do you think Jesus might have been feeling as he was taken before this formidable court?
- Q2. Why do you think they found it difficult to find sufficient evidence to convict Jesus of anything?
- Q3. Why do you think Jesus refused to speak for much of the proceedings, and how does Isaiah 53:7 help us understand his seemingly passive response?
- Q4. What convinced the high priest and most of those present that Jesus was guilty of blasphemy and deserving of death?
- Q5. How does Daniel 7:13-14 help us understand Jesus' reference to himself as the 'Son of Man'?
- Q6. What convinced you that Jesus is both fully God and fully human?
- Q7. How does this truth – that Jesus is God and man – encourage and strengthen your faith and discipleship journey?
- Q8. How can we help the non-Christians we come across understand this aspect of Jesus' identity, particularly to those of other faith backgrounds such as Muslims, Jehovah Witnesses and Jews.

Focusing on God

I'd encourage you to have a short time of worship. For example, start with [You're Making Me Like Jesus](#) by Paul Oakely, which begins, "Son of Man, Man of Heaven". I couldn't find a You Tube version with the lyrics, so have put them over the page. You may want to WhatsApp them around the group, project them on a big screen or print them out. Following this, encourage people to bring a song, Scripture, prophetic word or prayer of thanks as the Holy Spirit leads.

Prayer

End by praying for each other to be more like Jesus. Jesus models perfect humanity, even in the most challenging circumstances. With faith and the Holy Spirit, he can help us do the same. Consider laying hands on one person you know is going through a hard time, have a burst of prayer for them together and see what the Holy Spirit brings to mind by way of encouragement for that person.

Lyrics

Verse 1

Son of Man and Man of Heaven,

Full of grace and truth.

Sinner's friend yet without sin,

I want to be like You.

Perfect in holiness.

Full of faithfulness and love.

Chorus 1

I want to be like Jesus, I want to be like Jesus,

I want to be like you, O Lord our God.

Verse 2

You began a work in me,

I know You'll see it through.

There's a new song in my heart,

And I want to sing to You.

You lifted me from mire,

From sin and from shame

You set me free,

And I know Your tenderness,

I know Your power at work in me.

Chorus 2

You're making me like Jesus, You're making me like Jesus,

You're making me like you, O Lord our God.