

DIVINE
"Jesus is..."
November 29, 2015

Jesus Is _____

Jesus-is.org

"One day Jesus left the crowds to pray alone. Only his disciples were with him, and he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say you are one of the other ancient prophets risen from the dead." Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Messiah sent from God!" Luke 9:18-20 (NLT)

The "I Am" sayings of Jesus:

- "I AM the **Bread** of Life" (John 6:27-59)
- "I AM the **Light** of the World" (John 7:2, 14; 8:12)
- "I AM the Good **Shepherd**" (John 10:1-10)
- "I AM the **Resurrection** and the Life" (John 11:17-26)
- "I AM the Way, the **Truth**, and the Life" (John 14:1-7)
- "I AM the True **Vine**" (John 15:1-8)

"God replied to Moses, "I am who I am. Say this to the people of Israel: I am has sent me to you." Exodus 3:14 (NLT)

God reveals Himself in the Old Testament:

- Yahweh-Jireh: The LORD will provide (Gen. 22:14)
- Yahweh-Rophe: The LORD who heals (Ex. 15:26)
- Yahweh-Nissi: The LORD our banner (Ex. 17:15)
- Yahweh-M'Kaddesh: The LORD who sanctifies (Lev. 20:8)
- Yahweh-Shalom: The LORD our peace (Judg. 6:24)
- Yahweh-Rohi: The LORD my shepherd (Ps. 23:1)
- Yahweh-Sabaoth: The LORD of hosts (Ps. 46:7)
- Yahweh-Tsidkenu: The LORD our righteousness (Jer. 23:6)
- Yahweh-Shammah: The LORD is there (Ezek. 48:35)

Who do you think Jesus is?

- Liar
- Lunatic
- Legend
- Lord

If Jesus really is Lord / Divine, then...

- There are a lot of things we think we can't do without that are really a waste of time.
- There are a lot of things the world thinks is a waste of time that really deserve our highest and best.

“By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world’s corruption caused by human desires.”

Leadership Tip!

Jesusis.org is a great example of a resource that life group leaders can use as you prepare. Don't be afraid to use online resources, but make sure you research their origin. Also, be sure to share the good resources you find.

Divine
 “Jesus Is _____”

STARTER QUESTIONS:

**When you hear the name Jesus, what is the first thought that comes to your mind?
 If Jesus was asked the same question about you, how do you think he would respond?**

MAIN IDEA:

This series is going to set the stage for us as we approach the most celebrated birthday in history. This week we discussed who Jesus is, who he is to us and who he should be in our lives.

How do you associate your life with Jesus?

In Hebrew Jesus means: "God saves" or "savior."

The word "Christ" comes from the Greek translation of the Hebrew "Messiah", which means "anointed."

So, in the literal sense, Jesus Christ is our anointed savior. In this series we are going to look at who Jesus really is to us.

The name Jesus is often associated with many things to many people. When we hear the word "Jesus", often our first thought is ... Lord, maybe salvation or God's son, healer, miracle worker, great story teller etc. (review the responses from the first question that you asked)

Let's look at the key Scripture where Jesus himself asked his disciples who they thought he was:

Luke 9:18-20 (NLT)

18 One day Jesus left the crowds to pray alone. Only his disciples were with him, and he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

19 "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say you are one of the other ancient prophets risen from the dead."

20 Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Messiah sent from God!"

What do you think about the responses from Peter and the disciples?

In this scripture, when asked what other people thought of Jesus, the people who were the closest to Him had a wide variety of answers. But when asked who they thought He was, Peter, true to his character said, "You are the Messiah sent from God". I can picture the scene in my mind that Peter sees the other disciples looking at each other and finally blurts out "Messiah"

What do you think Jesus thought of those responses?

What do you think the other disciples would have said? Thomas? Judas?

Jesus never leaves a doubt about who He really is, what His mission is and how He plans to leave the ministry to His disciples. On several occasions, Jesus answered the very question that He asked the disciples.

In the message, we looked at the "I Am" sayings of Jesus:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Feeds the hungry | "I AM the <u>Bread of Life</u> " (John 6:35) |
| Lights the path to salvation | "I AM the <u>Light of the World</u> " (John 8:12) |
| Sacrifices His life for His sheep | "I AM the <u>Good Shepherd</u> " (John 10:11) |
| Provides life for those who believe | "I AM the <u>Resurrection and the Life</u> " (John 11:25) |
| Provides the <u>only</u> way to God | "I AM the <u>Way, the Truth, and the Life</u> " (John 14:6) |
| Life to the branches (us) | "I AM the <u>True Vine</u> " (John 15:5) |

We can see that Jesus gave us the true meaning of who He is in these verses.

How do the "I AM" verses apply to your current relationship with Jesus?

Where are some of the areas that you need to rely on Jesus more as the "I AM"?

Pastor Hank showed us that God also revealed Himself in the Old testament as our Lord who: provides, heals, is our banner, sanctifies, is our peace, our shepherd, our righteousness and is there for us.

So Jesus, as the son of God, really is the divine intervention for us to Lord God.

The scripture that really wraps up how we should view Jesus as the son of God is:

2 Peter 1:3-4 (NLT)

3 By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence.

4 And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires.

What sticks out to you in these verses?

We clearly see that God has provided us everything that we need to live a godly life. However what we do with that is an entirely different story.

So now when you hear the name Jesus, what is the first thought that comes to your mind?

Has this discussion changed your idea of who Jesus is? How?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

Why would you not want to have a close relationship with Jesus?

Understanding who Jesus is, how He has provided salvation for us and how we should approach the cross is important in helping us to grow stronger and closer to God. Without a strong connection and love for Jesus, understanding what He means to us is difficult.

In order for us to take advantage of the divine "I AM" power of Jesus, we must come to Jesus. He is waiting for us to have a stronger, closer, more loving relationship with Him.

This series is going to show us how to get closer to Jesus and how to benefit from the divine power of Jesus.

What is a good next step for you based on the relationship that you want with Jesus?

Based on our discussion today, how can we help each other get closer to Jesus?

Additional Scripture resources:

Genesis 22:14

Exodus 15:26, 17:15

Leviticus 20:8

Judges 6:24

Psalms 23:1, 46:7

Jeremiah 29:11

Ezekiel 48:35

FAMILY FOCUS:

Jesus has so many names that describe Him and allow us to know Him in a more intimate way. Ask your children what is the best name they know that describes Jesus. If they are comfortable, have them explain why. Once you do this you can have fun playing the Trivia Name Game. Split your family into 2 teams and go through each question. If you really want to add some fun, have one member from each team roll a die to see who earns the right to answer the next question. The team with the highest number earns the right. If the winning team misses the question then the other team has a chance to earn the points by answering the question correctly. Each question has a different point value so you never know who the winner will be until the very end! You can make it extra fun by adding your own bonus questions or prizes for the winning team ☺

(The games cards have the points on them and you can use the score sheet provided)

1. Which name means The Anointed One?
 - a. The Way
 - b. Messiah
 - c. The Word
2. The name Immanuel means God _____ ?
 - a. Loves us
 - b. With us
 - c. Knows us
3. When we think of the name that tells us that Jesus is honest, good and true we can say His name is?
 - a. The Way
 - b. The Truth
 - c. The Life
4. Why is Jesus called the Way? **HE IS THE ONLY PATH TO GOD**
5. Jesus is called the Prince of _____.
 - a. Heaven
 - b. Earth
 - c. Peace
6. Which animal caretaker is Jesus described as?
 - a. Farmer
 - b. Veterinarian
 - c. Shepherd
7. What is Jesus called because He listens, guides and comforts?

8. Why is Jesus often described as The Rock? **HE IS SOLID AND PROVIDES US A STRONG FOUNDATION.**
9. What name describes how Jesus is the one who satisfies our spiritual hunger?
- Perfect Lamb
 - King of Kings
 - The Bread of Life**
10. Which name tells us that Jesus is the source of life and He provides the things we need from God?
- The Vine**
 - The Way
 - Son of Man
11. If Jesus is The Vine then what does that make us? **BRANCHES**
12. Why was Jesus called the Son of David if his earthly father's name was Joseph? **HE CAME FROM THE LINE OF KING DAVID**
13. What name describes that Jesus is our ruler forever and all other authority is under Him?
- Savior
 - King of Kings**
 - Redeemer
14. What name best describes how Jesus came to rescue us from our sins?
- I Am
 - The Rock
 - Savior**
15. What name describes how Jesus connects us with God?
- Mediator**
 - Immanuel
 - Alpha
16. BONUS: What is another name for Jesus that has not been mentioned in this game so far. Some names are listed on the next page. *Each team can earn one extra point for each name they come up with.

The Nature of Christ

Chief Cornerstone: ([Ephesians 2:20](#)) – Jesus is the cornerstone of the building, which is His church. He cements together Jew and Gentile, male and female—all saints from all ages and places into one structure built on faith in Him, which is shared by all.

Firstborn over all creation: ([Colossians 1:15](#)) – Not the first thing God created, as some incorrectly claim, because verse 16 says all things were created through and for Christ. Rather, the meaning is that Christ occupies the rank and pre-eminence of the first-born over all things, that He sustains the most exalted rank in the universe; He is pre-eminent above all others; He is at the head of all things.

Head of the Church: ([Ephesians 1:22](#); [4:15](#); [5:23](#)) – Jesus Christ, not a king or a pope, is the only supreme, sovereign ruler of the Church—those for whom He died and who have placed their faith in Him alone for salvation.

Holy One: ([Acts 3:14](#); [Psalm 16:10](#)) – Christ is holy, both in his divine and human nature, and the fountain of holiness to His people. By His death, we are made holy and pure before God.

Judge: ([Acts 10:42](#); [2 Timothy 4:8](#)) – The Lord Jesus was appointed by God to judge the world and to dispense the rewards of eternity.

King of kings and Lord of lords: ([1 Timothy 6:15](#); [Revelation 19:16](#)) – Jesus has dominion over all authority on the earth, over all kings and rulers, and none can prevent Him from accomplishing His purposes. He directs them as He pleases.

Light of the World: ([John 8:12](#)) – Jesus came into a world darkened by sin and shed the light of life and truth through His work and His words. Those who trust in Him have their eyes opened by Him and walk in the light.

Prince of peace: ([Isaiah 9:6](#)) – Jesus came not to bring peace to the world as in the absence of war, but peace between God and man who were separated by sin. He died to reconcile sinners to a holy God.

Son of God: ([Luke 1:35](#); [John 1:49](#)) – Jesus is the “only begotten of the Father” ([John 1:14](#)). Used 42 times in the New Testament, “Son of God” affirms the deity of Christ.

Son of man: ([John 5:27](#)) – Used as a contrast to “Son of God” this phrase affirms the humanity of Christ, which exists alongside His divinity.

Word: ([John 1:1](#); [1 John 5:7-8](#)) – The Word is the second Person of the triune God, who said it and it was done, who spoke all things out of nothing in the first creation, who was in the beginning with God the Father, and was God, and by whom all things were created.

Word of God: ([Revelation 19:12-13](#)) – This is the name given to Christ that is unknown to all but Himself. It denotes the mystery of His divine person.

Word of Life: ([1 John 1:1](#)) – Jesus not only spoke words that lead to eternal life, but according to this verse He is the very words of life, referring to the eternal life of joy and fulfillment which He provides.

His position in the trinity

Alpha and Omega: ([Revelation 1:8](#); [22:13](#)) – Jesus declared Himself to be the beginning and end of all things, a reference to no one but the true God. This statement of eternity could apply only to God.

Emmanuel: ([Isaiah 9:6](#); [Matthew 1:23](#)) – Literally “God with us.” Both Isaiah and Matthew affirm that the Christ who would be born in Bethlehem would be God Himself who came to earth in the form of a man to live among His people.

I Am: ([John 8:58](#), with [Exodus 3:14](#)) – When Jesus ascribed to Himself this title, the Jews tried to stone Him for blasphemy. They understood that He was declaring Himself to be the eternal God, the unchanging Jehovah of the Old Testament.

Lord of All: ([Acts 10:36](#)) – Jesus is the sovereign ruler over the whole world and all things in it, of all the nations of the world, and particularly of the people of God’s choosing, Gentiles as well as Jews.

True God: ([1 John 5:20](#)) – This is a direct assertion that Jesus, being the true God, is not only divine, but is the Divine. Since the Bible teaches there is only one God, this can only be describing His nature as part of the triune God.

His Work on earth

Author and Perfecter of our Faith: ([Hebrews 12:2](#)) – Salvation is accomplished through the faith that is the gift of God ([Ephesians 2:8-9](#)) and Jesus is the founder of our faith and the finisher of it as well. From first to last, He is the source and sustainer of the faith that saves us.

Bread of Life: ([John 6:35](#); [6:48](#)) – Just as bread sustains life in the physical sense, Jesus is the Bread that gives and sustains eternal life. God provided manna in the wilderness to feed His people and He provided Jesus to give us eternal life through His body, broken for us.

Bridegroom: ([Matthew 9:15](#)) – The picture of Christ as the Bridegroom and the Church as His Bride reveals the special relationship we have

with Him. We are bound to each other in a covenant of grace that cannot be broken.

Deliverer: ([Romans 11:26](#)) – Just as the Israelites needed God to deliver them from bondage to Egypt, so Christ is our Deliverer from the bondage of sin.

Good Shepherd: ([John 10:11,14](#)) – In Bible times, a good shepherd was willing to risk his own life to protect his sheep from predators. Jesus laid down His life for His sheep, and He cares for and nurtures and feeds us.

High Priest: ([Hebrews 2:17](#)) – The Jewish high priest entered the Temple once a year to make atonement for the sins of the people. The Lord Jesus performed that function for His people once for all at the cross.

Lamb of God: ([John 1:29](#)) – God's Law called for the sacrifice of a spotless, unblemished Lamb as atonement for sin. Jesus became that Lamb led meekly to the slaughter, showing His patience in His sufferings and His readiness to die for His own.

Mediator: ([1 Timothy 2:5](#)) – A mediator is one who goes between two parties to reconcile them. Christ is the one and only Mediator who reconciles men and God. Praying to Mary or the saints is idolatry because it bypasses this most important role of Christ and ascribes the role of Mediator to another.

Rock: ([1 Corinthians 10:4](#)) – As life-giving water flowed from the rock Moses struck in the wilderness, Jesus is the Rock from which flow the living waters of eternal life. He is the Rock upon whom we build our spiritual houses, so that no storm can shake them.

Resurrection and Life: ([John 11:25](#)) – Embodied within Jesus is the means to resurrect sinners to eternal life, just as He was resurrected from the grave. Our sin is buried with Him and we are resurrected to walk in newness of life.

Savior: ([Matthew 1:21](#); [Luke 2:11](#)) – He saves His people by dying to redeem them, by giving the Holy Spirit to renew them by His power, by enabling them to overcome their spiritual enemies, by sustaining them in trials and in death, and by raising them up at the last day.

True Vine: ([John 15:1](#)) – The True Vine supplies all that the branches (believers) need to produce the fruit of the Spirit— the living water of salvation and nourishment from the Word.

Way, Truth, Life: ([John 14:6](#)) – Jesus is the only path to God, the only Truth in a world of lies, and the only true source of eternal life. He embodies all three in both a temporal and an eternal sense.

Read more: <http://www.gotquestions.org/names-Jesus-Christ.html#ixzz3MploxlQQ>

1. Which name means
The Anointed One?

- a. The Way
- b. Messiah
- c. The Word

(1 point)



5. Jesus is called the
Prince of _____.

- a. Heaven
- b. Earth
- c. Peace

(4 points)



2. The name Immanuel
means God _____
_____?

- a. Loves us
- b. With us
- c. Knows us

(3 points)



6. Which animal
caretaker is Jesus
described as?

- a. Farmer
- b. Veterinarian
- c. Shepherd

(3 points)



3. When we think of the name
that tells us that Jesus is
honest, good and true we
can say His name is?

- a. The Way
- b. The Truth
- c. The Life

(2 points)



7. What is Jesus called
because He listens,
guides and comforts?

- a. Mediator
- b. Counselor
- c. Bread of Life

(1 point)



4. Why is Jesus called
the Way?

(5 points)



8. Why is Jesus often
described as The
Rock?

(2 points)





9. What name describes how Jesus is the one who satisfies our spiritual hunger?

- a. Perfect Lamb
- b. King of Kings
- c. The Bread of Life

(1 point)



13. What name describes that Jesus is our ruler forever and all other authority is under Him?

- a. Savior
- b. King of Kings
- c. Redeemer

(4 points)



10. Which name tells us that Jesus is the source of life and He provides the things we need from God?

- a. The Vine
- b. The Way
- c. Son of Man

(3 points)



14. What name best describes how Jesus came to rescue us from our sins?

- a. I Am
- b. The Rock
- c. Savior

(3 points)



11. If Jesus is The Vine then what does that make us?

(2 points)



15. What name describes how Jesus connects us with God?

- a. Mediator
- b. Immanuel
- c. Alpha

(1 point)



12. Why was Jesus called the Son of David if his earthly father's name was Joseph?

(5 points)



16. BONUS: What is another name for Jesus that has not been mentioned in this game so far. Some names are listed on the next page.

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