

“Who Do You Say That I Am”

Matthew 16:13-20

Pastor Sandy Park and Every Child Director, Kristin Wall

Caesarea Philippi - located at the foot of Mt. Hermon, 25 miles north of the Sea of Galilee. This ancient city centered around the shrine of the god, Pan, the god of grain. Herod also built a temple to worship Caesar Augustus that was built around the “grotto”, a large cave that they believed was the entrance (gate) to the underworld (hades). Pagan gods were worshipped in this location since the Stone Age. Shelves in the cliff were carved out of the rock where statues of Pan were placed.

It is in this setting that Jesus asked the life-altering question: Who do you say that I am?

The answer to that question will not only determine your _____, but will also impact your _____.

1. Our _____ of faith in Jesus as the Messiah, the son of the living God is a **gift of God** so no man can boast.
 - Saved by grace (Ephesians 2:8)
 - Gift of faith (Romans 12:3, 1 Corinthians 12:9)
 - Power and desire to do his good pleasure (Philippians 2:13)
2. Our _____ in believing Jesus is who he says he is will give us confidence in knowing **we are who he says we are**.
 - Made fearfully and wonderfully in the image of God (Genesis 1:27, Psalm 139:14))
 - More than conquerors in Christ (Romans 8:37)
 - His beloved (Solomon 2:16)
 - The righteousness of Christ, standing before the throne of God blameless without a single fault (2 Corinthians 5:21, Colossians 1:22)
3. Our _____ as heirs who have been given **keys to the kingdom of heaven** empowers us to do his kingdom work.
 - heirs of God, blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ (Romans 8:17, Ephesians 1:3)
 - same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us (Romans 8:11)
 - recipients of the promise (Galatians 3:29)
4. Our **knowing** Jesus goes beyond what we know (**factually**) in our minds to what we know (**experientially**) in our hearts.
5. Our **ability** to truly know Jesus comes through the **power of the Holy Spirit**.
6. Our **commission** to “Go” begins and ends with knowing Jesus (**in intimate relationship**) and sharing Jesus (**through authentic relationship**).

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.” Isaiah 61:1-3

Who does God say that he is:

- God is faithful, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Deuteronomy 7:9
- God is light, 1 John 1:5
- God is patient, longing that everyone come to repentance, 2 Peter 3:9
- God is creator, Genesis 1:1. Colossians 1:16
- God is spirit, John 4:24
- God is just, Psalm 50:6
- God is gracious and righteous, full of compassion, Psalm 116:5
- God is a God who saves, Psalm 68:20
- God is light and salvation, stronghold of our lives, Psalm 27:1
- God is a sun and shield, bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless, Psalm 84:11-12
- The Lord our God, He is one, Deuteronomy 6:4
- God is our rock, 2 Samuel 22:32
- God is love, 1 John 7-8
- God is the one who fights for you and gives you the victory, Deuteronomy 20:4
- God is a consuming fire, a jealous God, Deuteronomy 4:24
- God is merciful, Deuteronomy 4:31
- God is our lamp who turns darkness into light, 2 Samuel 22:29
- God never lies, Titus 1:2, Numbers 23:19
- God is the I AM, Exodus 3:14, John 8:58
- God is our redeemer, Isaiah 44:24
- Jesus is God; He is the word become flesh, the whole fullness of deity dwelling in bodily form, John 1, Colossians 2:9
- Jesus is the good shepherd, Psalm 23, John 10
- Jesus is the vine, John 15
- Jesus is the way, the truth and the life, John 14:6
- Jesus is the son of God, the one whom God has sent, John 17:3, 1 John 5:9-10
- Jesus is the Alpha and Omega, first and last, beginning and the end, Revelation 22:13, Isaiah 44:6
- Jesus is the king of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, 1 Timothy 1:17, Colossians 1:15
- Jesus is the head of the body, the church, Colossians 1:18, 1 Corinthians 12
- Jesus is the resurrection, John 11:25-26
- Jesus is the radiance of the glory of God, the exact imprint of his nature, Hebrews 1:3
- Jesus is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Isaiah 9:6
- Jesus is our mediator, 1 Timothy 2:5

“Who Do You Say That I Am”

Matthew 16:13-20

Pastor Sandy Park and Every Child Director, Kristin Wall

Caesarea Philippi - located at the foot of Mt. Hermon, 25 miles north of the Sea of Galilee. This ancient city centered around the shrine of the god, Pan, the god of grain. Herod also built a temple to worship Caesar Augustus that was built around the “grotto”, a large cave that they believed was the entrance (gate) to the underworld (hades). Pagan gods were worshipped in this location since the Stone Age. Shelves in the cliff were carved out of the rock where statues of Pan were placed.

It is in this setting that Jesus asked the life-altering question: Who do you say that I am?

The answer to that question will not only determine your eternal destiny, but will also impact your present reality.

3. Our confession of faith in Jesus as the Messiah, the son of the living God is a **gift of God** so no man can boast.
 - Saved by grace (Ephesians 2:8)
 - Gift of faith (Romans 12:3, 1 Corinthians 12:9)
 - Power and desire to do his good pleasure (Philippians 2:13)
4. Our confidence in believing Jesus is who he says he is will give us confidence in knowing **we are who he says we are**.
 - Made fearfully and wonderfully in the image of God (Genesis 1:27, Psalm 139:14)
 - More than conquerors in Christ (Romans 8:37)
 - His beloved (Solomon 2:16)
 - The righteousness of Christ, standing before the throne of God blameless without a single fault (2 Corinthians 5:21, Colossians 1:22)
3. Our rights as heirs who have been given **keys to the kingdom of heaven** empowers us to do his kingdom work.
 - heirs of God, blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ (Romans 8:17, Ephesians 1:3)
 - same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us (Romans 8:11)
 - recipients of the promise (Galatians 3:29)
4. Our **knowing** Jesus goes beyond what we know (**factually**) in our minds to what we know (**experientially**) in our hearts.
5. Our **ability** to truly know Jesus comes through the **power of the Holy Spirit**.
6. Our **commission** to “Go” begins and ends with knowing Jesus (**in intimate relationship**) and sharing Jesus (**through authentic relationship**).

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.” Isaiah 61:1-3