

THE ROCK

Who is Jesus?

Matthew 7:24-25 “**Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.** ²⁵ **The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.**

THE HEART OF THIS SERIES! ALL AGES TOGETHER!

-SOAP: Scripture.....Observation.....Application.....Prayer

CHURCHWIDE! (Teens everyday) WEEKLY: MONDAY MORNINGS

-Materials: “FOUNDATIONS” Julie Nelson

LAST WEEK: WHO IS GOD?

TODAY: WHO IS JESUS?

NEXT WEEK: WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT? (TRINITY)

THIS WEEK’S VERSE:

John 1:1 **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

EXPAND TEXT: (John is where most people to start reading the bible)

John 1:1-5 ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:9-14 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God

¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

TODAY: Broaden your picture of Jesus!!! (not just 33 years of life)

3 TRUTHS ABOUT JESUS!

1) Jesus has been around since the beginning of time!

Jesus: Lord of Creation, Since the Beginning

In the beginning.....(BOLD & DECLARITIVE WORDS)

Those three words don't just open the Bible—they open reality itself.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Before history had a timeline, before the universe had edges,
before light knew how to shine, God was already there.

- And according to Scripture, Jesus was there too.
- He wasn't Plan B. He wasn't a response to human failure.
(WE WILL TALK ABOUT THAT IN 3 WEEKS)

TODAY: IDENTITY & HISTORY (He was there from the start.)

Jesus was not just a religious leader in history who lived for 33 years!

- Sometimes we reduce Jesus as a moral teacher, a miracle worker, or a spiritual life coach.
- Someone who helps us cope, inspires us to love, and forgives us when we mess up.

-All of that is true—but it's not enough.

WHY.....because If Jesus is only helpful, then we follow Him when it's convenient.

But if Jesus *is* Lord of creation, then He doesn't just advise our lives—He defines them. (MAKE HIM LORD OF OUR LIVES)

-He existed BEFORE the world began, and had a part in the creation.

John 1:1-3 ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

So Jesus has not only existed eternally.....
.....he was actually part of the process of creation.

He was not a man who suddenly appeared on the world scene.....
..... he was God who has always existed.

He was not born in the normal way..... he came to earth from heaven.

THE BEST PART.....And there is even more to the story: He will return to the earth again and claim his rightful position as King of kings and Lord of lords.

His kingdom will never end.

READ TO THE END OF THE BOOK.....WE WIN!!!!

Revelation 11:15 “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever.”

“AND HE SHALL REIGN FOREVER AND EVER”

In other words, Jesus existed before the world began and will reign long after the present world is over.

He is the Lord of history.

He is, as he has always been, in complete control of the world.

He is eternal.

Revelation 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Revelation 21:6 He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

Revelation 22:13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

Here is the amazing part.....If Jesus is God.....we can have a personal relationship with the creator of the universe!!

2) Jesus was God in the Flesh for us!

Matthew 1:23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

THE TRINITY.....Father, son & Holy Spirit!

-I am a Father, Son and Husband!

Webster's dictionary definition of INCARNATION:

(1)the embodiment of a deity or spirit in some earthly form (2) the union of divinity with humanity in Jesus Christ

1 John 1:1-2 (The Incarnation of the Word of Life) That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched, this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. ² The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.

-John was saying.....WE HAVE LITERALLY SEEN GOD!

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

-He is a true picture of the GRACE & TRUTH of GOD!

Colossians 1:15-17. “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together”

-He is the creator and GLUE that holds everything together!

Jesus claimed to have come from heaven when he talked with Nicodemus.....

John 3:13-15 “No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven — the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the

desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life

THE MASTER PLAN IS REVEALED.....

“everyone who believes in him may have eternal life”

First: Jesus has been around since the beginning of time (Lord of Creation)

Second: Jesus was God in Flesh for us to see! (Emmanuel God with us)

3) We see in Jesus...the heart of God!

Many people view God as distant, ominous and even cruel (OT)

BUT.....IF JESUS IS GOD.....This means that we have a God we can know.

-He has revealed himself.

-He did not stay away and separate from us, but came to be with us.

EMMANUEL.....GOD WITH US!!

Hebrews 1:1-3 In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

-Where is Jesus now? (On his throne Interceding for humanity)

Romans 8:34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

-AND IT IS HIS WILL THAN NONE SHOULD PERISH!!!

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

-WE SEE THE HEART OF GOD..... Humble, patient, caring, loyal, Just!

-NOT A GOD WAITING TO PUNISH HUMANITY!!

Philippians 2:6-11 [Jesus] Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

THE NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES!

-Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess....Jesus is Lord!

Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Jesus, in one of his final moments with his disciples, prayed saying.....

John 17:5 “And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began”

Jesus came from Glory, and he wants to bring you into that glory.

John 17:24 “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world”

He understood who he was and where he had come from.

-He fully understood the plan!

-His disciples wanted him to be king NOW!

THIS WAS NEVER THE PLAN.....HE WAS KING OF ALL ETERNITY!

He came to conquer more than the Romans and Religious Jews.....

-He came to conquer DEATH AND THE GRAVE!

John 1:12-13 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.

What does this mean to us? It means God cares for us.

(WE SEE HIS HEART)

This is not a god who, as the deists claim, created the world, wound it up and set it off into space never to take an interest in it again.

This is a God who is full of emotion and passionate caring for the world and the people he created —

John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

THAT IS THE HEART OF GOD.....RELATIONSHIP!

-Beginning to the end of the Bible.....RELATIONSHIP!

-Relationships are flawed and messy and take work!

Romans 2:4 says, Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

Peter explains it like this:

1 Peter 1:18-20 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake"

His Kingdom will reign forever and ever.....He wants you in His kingdom!!

2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

-Jesus came to this earth with a purpose.....OUR SALVATION!

1 John 4:9-10 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

SO, WHO IS JESUS?

- 1) He has been around since the beginning of time (LORD OF CREATION)
- 2) Jesus was God in the flesh for us (EMMANUEL..... GOD WITH US)
- 3) We see in Jesus.....the heart of God (HE SENT US A SAVIOUR)

-The Atoning sacrifice for our sins! (MORE IN 3 WEEKS)

THIS WEEK'S VERSE:

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

SO, WHO IS JESUS? LET ME PAINT THIS PICTURE!!

The One who spoke light into darkness has been holding this fragile universe together the entire time.

The same voice that said, "Let there be," is the voice that said, "Peace, be still."

And it's the same voice that says to us today, "Follow me."

This changes how we see power.

- In creation, Jesus rules with wisdom.
- In the Gospels, He rules with humility.

- He touches lepers.
- He eats with sinners.
- He washes feet.

And then He reigned from a cross.....Not an earthly throne!

The Lord of creation doesn't dominate—He gives Himself.

(THIS IS THE HEART OF GOD)

-The Creator entered His creation to heal it from the inside out.

-And the story doesn't end with resurrection alone—it ends with restoration.

-A new heaven. A new earth.

-Creation made whole again under its rightful King.

COMMUNION: WE REMEMBER THE “WHY” BEHIND THE “WHO”

Communion realigns our hearts: We examine and remember!

WE GIVE THANKS FOR GOD’S GIFT TO THIS WORLD!

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread,²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.”²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.