

2nd Yr. Ambassadors

Lesson 15



Who Do You Say Jesus Is?

Greetings Ambassadors! There is so much faith confusion in our country and world today. It is so important that you understand **Who** you worship and serve, and **Why**. This lesson will challenge you to **clarify your beliefs about Jesus**. You will hear words like **Gospel** “the good news” and **Church** “a local group of believers that participates regularly in worship, fellowship, instruction and evangelism.” So let’s get started.

The Four Gospels and Jesus

Matthew

Author: Matthew
Written to: Jews
Theme: **Jesus the King**

Mark

Author: John Mark
Written to: Roman Christians
Theme: **Jesus the Servant**

Luke

Author: Luke
Written to: Theophilus
Theme: **Jesus the Son of Man**

John

Author: Apostle John
Written to: Jews and Gentiles
Theme: **Jesus the Son of God**

Jesus in the New Testament

The Old Testament (O.T.) contains many predictions that a Savior would come to rescue His people. But by the end of O.T. times, Jesus had not yet shown up. Four hundred years later, Jesus, the Savior, is born.

The New Testament (N.T.) includes a record of Jesus’ life and teachings (some we discussed last lesson). It also tells how Jesus’ work was carried on by His appointed Disciples after He returned to Heaven. You can find in the N.T. how to have eternal life by trusting Jesus as Savior as well as learning how to live in a way that brings God joy.

In the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), you will find that each book contains some of the same details about Jesus. But each book is unique, because each author wrote about Jesus from their own experiences with Him. So you will have four different perspectives of the same person – Jesus. Let’s take a brief look at each book.

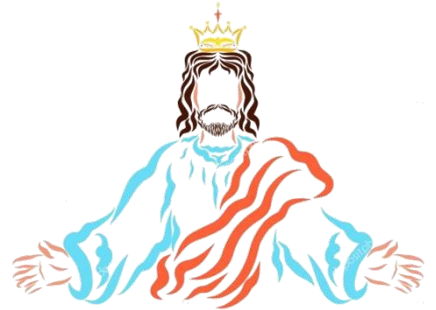


Matthew: Jesus the King

Matthew, one of the 12 appointed by Jesus as an Apostle, was a tax collector who left his work to follow Jesus (Matt. 9:9). Matthew wrote especially to Jews to prove to them that Jesus was, and still is, the Messiah and King that they had long been waiting for. Matthew's writings contain more references to the O.T. than any other N.T. writings.

Jesus' Testimony

To show that Jesus' birth fulfilled O.T. prophecy, Matthew carefully traced Jesus' genealogy (who was in His family from the past) from Abraham (1:1-17). He wrote about Jesus' virgin birth and John the Baptist's announcement of Jesus' coming. Isaiah had predicted these events more than 700 years earlier (Matt. 1:22; 3:3).



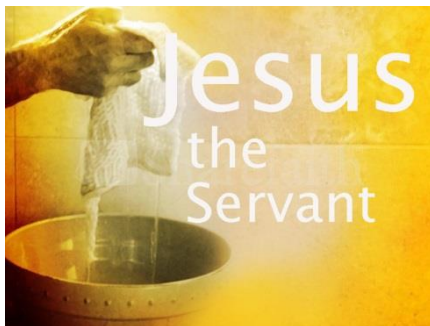
Jesus' Teachings

Matthew described how Jesus recruited His disciples, healed the sick, and preached to large and small crowds of people. In chapters 5-7, we read what is generally spoken of as Jesus' greatest teaching, the Sermon on the Mount. In Matthew 16, we find Peter's great confession that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. In this passage, Jesus promised to build His Church.

Jesus' Triumph

Describing Jesus' last days on earth, Matthew told about His betrayal, His arrest, and crucifixion (chapters 25-27). In chapter 28, we read that Jesus rose from the grave. The last verses in Matthew include Jesus' command to His disciples to go and preach the gospel throughout the world (28:16-20) in which we call the Great Commission for all Christians to read, learn and obey.

Mark: Jesus the Servant



Mark is known as the action book. Mark learned about who Jesus was from the Apostle Peter (1 Peter 5:13). Mark wrote mostly to Gentile Christians in the church at Rome. Perhaps he was preparing them for persecution by telling them about Jesus' life and sufferings. Mark identifies Jesus as a Servant to all.

The Servant's Compassion

Mark's writing emphasized what Jesus did, showing His love for people. We read how Jesus healed many who were deaf and dumb or blind; raised a dead girl to life; fed a hungry crowd of 5000; and welcomed little children (chap. 1-11). But Mark also wrote that Jesus is God (1:1).

The Servant's Sacrifice

Like the other gospel writers, Mark recorded events leading to Jesus' death on the cross for humanity. He told about Peter's denial of Christ, His crucifixion, and women coming to anoint His body, only to find that He had risen. At the close of Mark's book, we read that Jesus was taken up into Heaven, where He sat on the right hand of God (Mark 16:19).

Luke: Jesus the Son of Man

Luke was a Gentile. He wrote his book to one Christian, Theophilus, but intended it to help all believers grow in Christ and preach the gospel to everyone, not only to those who were Jews. (Luke 1:3) Most of Luke's gospel is a record of Jesus' teachings. Luke emphasizes that Jesus, the Messiah, had a mission on earth. It was to seek and to save the lost (19:10).

John: Jesus the Son of God

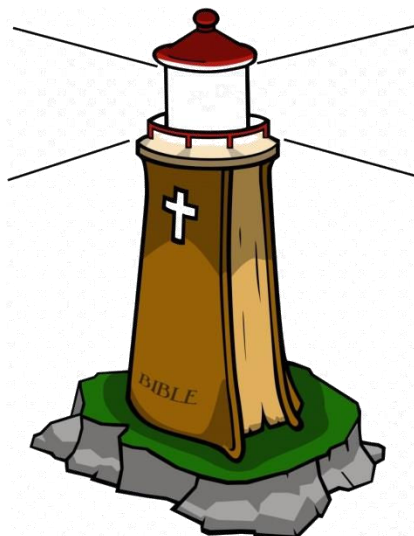
The Apostle John referred to himself as the disciple whom Jesus loved (13:23). He told how Jesus existed with God in the beginning (1:1) and that He created all things (1:3). John also gave an account of Jesus' birth (1:10-14). John recorded many of the miracles that Jesus did, showing Himself to be the Son of God. Two of the best-known chapters in John's book are chapter 3 and 15, which tells that you must be born again to have eternal life, and the close relationship Christ desires to have with His followers.

John clearly stated his main purpose for writing his book: *"These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."* (20:31).

**"Simon Peter answered; You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."
-Matthew 16:16**

THINK ABOUT IT

If you stood on a street corner and asked people who they believe Jesus is, you would get many different answers. Some would say He was a wise teacher like Confucius or a prophet like Mohammed.



The writers of the gospels recorded what Jesus said and did so you could know more than facts about His life. Their goal was that you would believe in Him as your Savior and have a personal relationship with Him, as Peter did. In confessing Jesus to be the promised Messiah, Peter was doing more than expressing an opinion about Him...He was adoring Him, worshipping Him as Lord.

Is Jesus also your Savior and your Lord?

Now click here to watch this Supplemental Video about your lesson: <https://youtu.be/vHnUZkar2JM>

Ambassadors

Year 2 Lesson 15 Quiz



Click here if you are taking your quiz online, then send the email you receive to your mentor to grade and discuss: <https://forms.gle/ZjvF9dgTeTCGhu8eA>

Complete this assignment and set up a time to meet with an adult mentor who will go over this with you. Mentor, after you have graded this lesson using the Answer Key, please enter the lesson online using the links that were sent in order to receive credit. Thanks.

Student Name: _____

1. In the space below, tell who Jesus is.
2. Now that you've stated who Jesus is, what difference does it make in your life?
3. How did Matthew depict Jesus?
4. How did Matthew show his readers that Jesus was (and is) the King?
5. What great sermon of Jesus did Matthew record?
6. How did Mark describe Jesus?
7. What mission did Luke say Jesus came to carry out on earth?
8. Who did John, the writer of the fourth gospel, say Jesus is?
9. Why did John write his gospel?
10. What difference will it make at your school if your peers know who Jesus is?