

The Life of Christ

Lesson 4

Luke 9:7-9, 18-21

January 31, 2021

Who Do You Say I Am?

Introduction

We answer many questions in our lives. Some of them are easy to answer: What is the answer to 1+1? Others are more complicated: What should I make for dinner? Some questions don't have much bearing on our lives, while other questions are incredibly important.

One of the most important questions that we will have to answer in life is the one Jesus asked His disciples: Who do you say I am? For Christians, the answer is simple—Jesus is the Messiah. But He is so much more than this. To truly believe in Jesus, it's essential to understand who He really is.

So, who do you say Jesus is?

Memory verse: "But what about you?" he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' Peter answered, 'God's Messiah.'" - Luke 9:20

Pray and read Luke 9:7-9, 18-21. What questions or observations do you have about these passages?

What do the passages say?

1. Why was Herod perplexed? (Luke 9:7-8)
2. What did Herod say? (Luke 9:9)

3. What does Jesus ask His disciples? (Luke 9:18)

4. What do the disciples reply to Jesus' question? (Luke 9:19)

5. What does Jesus ask His disciples? (Luke 9:20)

6. What does Peter reply? (Luke 9:20)

7. What does Jesus warn the disciples not to do? (Luke 9:21)

What do the passages mean?

1. Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was (Luke 9:20). But there is only one correct answer to this question. Who does the Bible say Jesus is? (Luke 4:34, 41; John 1:1-3, 14, 10:30, 17:21; Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1:3)

2. Reread Luke 9:20. Peter answers Jesus' question with "God's Messiah." And that's a good place to start. But, as you grow in Christ, how does the answer to the question, "Who do you say I am?" change? (John 8:58, 14:6, 11; Colossians 2:9; 1 Timothy 2:5)

3. Herod didn't know who Jesus was but kept hearing about Him and His actions. People were talking about who Jesus could be. But the disciples knew who Jesus was and were told to share who He was. (Luke 9:9) Why does it matter to say who Jesus is? (Romans 6:22-23, 10:9; 1 John 3:10, 4:2-3)

4. Look back to Luke 9:21. Jesus tells the disciples not to tell anyone who He is. It wasn't time to spread the word yet. But it became time as soon as Jesus was resurrected. Why should we share who Jesus is? (Matthew 24:14; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 1:6-7; 2 Corinthians 5:20-21; 2 Peter 3:9)

5. The question, “Who do you say I am?” answers the question that the book of Luke has been focusing on: Jesus’ identity. How do those that encounter Jesus in Luke point to who Jesus is? (Luke 2:11, 4:34, 41, 7:49, 8:25)

Applying the passages

1. Who do you say Jesus is? What are your reasons for believing that?

2. What keeps you from sharing Jesus with others? How can you remedy that, along with learning to depend on the Lord to speak?

3. How has your understanding of who Jesus is changed as you have grown in your faith?