



### **QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION** (Pg 1)

(Group leaders pick 4-5 questions to discuss as time permits)

What's the hardest question you've ever been asked? What made it hard to answer?

Read and compare the passages when Jesus asks, *Who do you say I am?* (Mark 8:27-30; Matthew 16:13-20, Luke 9:18-21). What observations can you make about Jesus' questions and the disciples responses?

What do people think of Jesus today?

What do you believe about Jesus today? How would you answer Jesus' question if he asked you?

In your opinion, why does Jesus tell his disciples not to tell anyone about him, immediately after asking them about what they believed about him? (Mark 8:30)

What is your response to the C.S. Lewis quote?

If you can recall, what did you think about Jesus prior to becoming a Christian? What were some of the questions you had then? How did you find satisfactory answers?



### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION (Pg 2)

Share with the group the last time you had a personal conversation with someone about Jesus. What questions did they have and how did you answer them? What could you do to engage more people about Jesus? How could you prepare yourself to be better equipped to provide answers?

How has the *Questions Jesus Asked* series affected you?

Consider each point & verses found in the outline and ask the following questions of the group:

1. How are you encouraged by this?
  2. How does this challenge you personally?
  3. In what ways do you disagree?
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## Guide - QUESTIONS JESUS ASKED 5: *Who do you say I am?*

### Mark 8:29

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The gospels record Jesus asking 307 questions. In contrast, he is only asked 183 questions. And, depending on which scholar you ask, Jesus only directly answered 3, or 8 of those.

The first words of Jesus recorded in the gospels is a question posed to his parents who are frantically searching for him as a preteen. After discovering he is MIA as they travel, they find him at the Temple teaching grown and sophisticated adults. When they express their anxiety to about having “lost” him, he replies with two back-to-back questions (Lu 2:49): (1) “Why were you searching for me?” And, (2) “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” Far at the other end of his life, Jesus’ final words on the cross also posed a question, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Matt 27:46).

Perhaps then, in considering our personal discipleship we should focus a little less on having the right answers, and a little more on asking the right questions. What do you think?

### OUTLINE & SCRIPTURES

#### **“Who do you say I am?”**

Mark 8:27-30; Matthew 16:13-20

#### **JESUS ASKS TWO RELATED QUESTIONS:**

Mark 8:27-30

##### **1. Who do PEOPLE say I am?**

Mark 8:27

##### **2. Who do YOU say I am?**

Mark 8:29

- A thoughtful question

My aim is to prevent anyone from saying the really foolish thing people say about Him, such as, “I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept His claim to be God.” That is the sort of thing that we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic – on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit on Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call him Lord and God.”

C.S. Lewis

- A significant question
- A question that calls for decision  
Luke 11:23; Mt 10:32; Joshua 24:15
- A present tense question