

Week 4: Who is Christ?

In Preparation for Small Group Discussion:

1. Listen to the message given at Kettlebrook - West Bend by Ryan LaTour on February 28, 2010 live, on the web at: <http://www.kettlebrook.org/resources/index.htm> or via podcast on iTunes.
2. Read chapter 9 (pages 67-71) in Wayne Grudem's *Christian Beliefs*
3. Prepare your responses to the questions presented here in this study

From Sunday:

What was the main point of the message?

How will this practically change your life?

From Your Perspective:

In your own life, what is one thing that you wish you could be "rescued" from?

How would you in your own words describe Jesus Christ to someone else who had never heard of him?

From the Skeptic:

Few people would disagree that Jesus is considered to be one of, if not the most influential human being that ever lived. Still, the magnitude of the claims that he made forces any rational person to explore him as a person. Below are some of the claims that Jesus made.

- “Be quiet!” “Come out of him” (Jesus speaking to an evil spirit) – Matthew 1:25
- “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” - Matthew 28:18
- “Quiet! Be still!” (Jesus speaking to a storm) – Mark 4:39
- “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” - Mark 13:31
- “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will be saved.” – Luke 9:23-24
- “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.” – Luke 10:18
- “I who speak to you am he (the Messiah).” – John 4:26
- “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” – John 14:6

Which of these claims are you the most skeptical of and why?

From the Bible:

In the New Testament, Peter (one of Jesus’ closest disciples) describes Jesus to a large crowd in the book of Acts. Take some time to read Acts 2:22-36

Make a list below of the things we learn about Jesus from Peter in this text.

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Looking back on last week's discussion on the Trinity, do you see evidence of the Trinity again here in this passage? If so, where?

What are some of the titles that Peter gives to Jesus in this passage? Are there any titles that you are not familiar with?

What are some of the things that Peter says that Jesus accomplished?

If you had to give Jesus a title that would capture his current role in your life, what title(s) would you give him and why?

From the Book:

In Grudem's chapter on Christ, he presents Jesus as both fully God and as fully man. There is however, an exception. How is Jesus not like man?

Why is that important?

On the next page is a spectrum with Jesus as fully God on one end and fully man on the other. Mark the spectrum in a way that best describes how you currently see Jesus and be prepared to describe why.

Moving Forward:

Think of a current struggle that you are having. If Jesus was fully man, how might that allow him to empathize with you?

If Jesus is fully God, how might you engage him for help through this struggle?

How can the group help you in this?

Digging Deeper:

Some other passages that you may want to explore include:

- Hebrews 2:17 – Jesus as human
- Hebrews 4:15 – Jesus was tempted just like we are
- Colossians 2:9 – Jesus as God
- Philippians 2:6-11 – Jesus as God and human

Another message that you may want to listen to includes:

- “Who is this Jesus” by Tim Keller
http://www.monergism.com/directory/link_in_frame.php?link=19782

Another book that you may want to explore includes:

- Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ by John Piper, ISBN # 1581346239