

Who is Jesus? | 1-22-25

## LARGE GROUP GAME: Human "Guess Who"

One boy and one girl will be selected to be the guessers. The audience will stand up while holding a whiteboard with their name on it. The guessers will select their secret person, and they will need to guess who the other one selected.

Our number one goal tonight is to **start planning how you'll serve together on 2/12**. You'll also want to start thinking about who Jesus is, since we'll start a new series about Jesus next week.

## **SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (45 minutes)**

#### Just Good or God?

- 1. Play a quick word association game. Tell them you're going to say a word and you want them to go around the circle and tell us the very first word that comes to mind when you hear each. Give them a few words and then use "Jesus" as your final word. (A few examples to start with could be, "Fun," "Ocean," or "Blue")
- 2. What first comes to mind when you hear the name "Jesus"?
- 3. (Consider having a student read this instead of just reading yourself) The question, "Who is Jesus?" is a question that has been asked throughout history ever since Jesus first appeared on this earth more than 2,000 years ago. And it's a question that Jesus wants you to ask. He welcomes your curiosity—even your boldness—as you ask about him and the claims he made about himself. So, what does Jesus mean to you?
- 4. How would you describe Jesus to someone who had never heard of him before?
- 5. As a group, read Matthew 16:13-17.
  - a. Why does Jesus ask who the people say he is and then who the disciples say he is?
  - b. What do you think Jesus means in verse 17?

Christians and non-Christians agree that Jesus was a real human being. He is a historical figure. The difference is that many non-Christians would claim that Jesus was just a good person and teacher. As Christians, we believe that Jesus is God in the flesh (in human form).

- 6. Do you think of Jesus more as a good person/teacher or 100% God? Why?
  - a. If you don't believe he is God, what makes it hard for you to believe?
- 7. What difference does it make if you believe one or the other?
- 8. What would change about a person's life if they believed 100% that Jesus was God's son, the savior of the world, and the one who wants to give us the greatest life imaginable?
- 9. If someone looked at your life, would they immediately know that you 100% believe that about Jesus?
- 10. What is one way your life would look different this week if you were living 100% committed to Jesus?

# **Serve Night**

Coming up in a few weeks on February 12, we'll be having JHM Group Serve Night. Your group has the chance to decide where and how you'd like to serve. It does not have to be here at the church (even better if it's not). It could be in the community, out at a local organization, or wherever else you'd like (doesn't even necessarily have to be at the same timeframe). Consider the following as you brainstorm and then be sure you let Drew know what your group would like to do by the end of group next week (1/29). You can see both last year's plans (and this year's, as they're updated) at <a href="linktr.ee/wsccjhmleaders">linktr.ee/wsccjhmleaders</a>.

- 1. What do you like to do? Is there a way to use that to serve?
- 2. Do you have any connections at local organizations, or have you served anywhere you'd like to try to help?
- 3. Does a specific person, group or organization come to mind immediately that you know could use help?

## HIGH/LOW/GOD THING (15 minutes)

### **PRAY**

Encourage one student to pray for the group, specifically that each student knows that they are seen and never overlooked by God or at JHM.

### MATTHEW 16:13-17

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" 14 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.