

“The Person of Jesus”

Use this guide as a tool to help you prepare to experience spiritual transformation in a practical way. It is a flexible guide that will help you discover, own, and apply the truths of God’s Word.

Message Summary

We are halfway through the Story of God. We have learned much about God’s grace and mercy as He led His people into the Promised Land. However, we learned much about God’s people and the fact that their hearts were focused on evil everyday. God’s people rebelled over and over. God sent prophets to warn them of wrath to come but also to encourage them of a New Covenant that would soon come. God’s people, however, continued to rebel to the point that God not only sent them into exile multiple times away from their land but He also stopped speaking to them through the prophets. God was silent for 400 years. Yet, God still loved His people.

Just before the 400 years of silence, the Old Testament ends with God promising that a man would come and prepare the way for the Messiah, the One that would make the New Covenant with His people. This forerunner was a man named John the Baptizer. John warned God’s people to repent and turn to the One who would baptize them with the Holy Spirit. Ultimately this Messiah would come. His name was Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus came into the world, to His own people the Jews, yet they did not receive Him. But to all who received Him and believed in His name, He gave them the right to become children of God.

Another John, John the Apostle, spent 3 years with Jesus. He learned from Him. He ate with Him. He lived with Him. John saw Jesus’ compassion, His authority, and His power. Ultimately John saw Jesus die on a cross as a criminal, buried in a rich man’s tomb, rise from the dead 3 days later, and ascend back to the right hand of God the Father. John was overwhelmed by Jesus. As a result, he wrote the Gospel of John to communicate the beauty and glory of this God-Man who would save people from their sins. This Jesus was the promised Messiah!

As you prepare to meet with your Missional Community this week examine how you view Jesus the Christ. Do you see Him in all His glory and splendor? Or do you see Him as the means to an end; that end being heaven? The point of the sermon this past week was to help you see that to believe the Gospel is to delight in the gift and glory of the Person of Jesus.

Message Outline

The Person of Jesus Christ is...

1. Historical.
 - He is eternal.
 - He is fully God.
 - He is the agent of creation.
 - He is fully human.
2. Personal.
 - He speaks.
 - He is present.
 - He cares.
3. Glorious.

He is glorified in:

 - Creation.
 - Condescension.
 - Salvation.
 - Consummation.
4. Unique.
 - He reveals God’s truth.
 - He extends God’s grace.

“The Person of Jesus”

Group Discussion

Use the following questions to help make application of God’s Word to your Head (What God wants me to know), to your Heart (What God wants me to desire/value), and to your Hands (What God wants me to do).

In regard to John 1:14:

1. What does this passage say about God’s character?
2. What is God doing here? How does this passage fit in the overall narrative of the Bible?
3. What is God saying about me?
4. Where am I not living by faith? How do I return to faith?
5. How should I practice this in everyday life?

Weekly Prayer Focus

- **Church:**
 - Pray that God would give us new believers and covenant members.
 - Pray that all who have believed the Gospel will obey Jesus in believer’s baptism.
 - Pray for new relationships that will lead to Gospel conversations.
 - Pray for the elders as they lead us to accomplish the mission.
 - Pray for the Missional Communities impact their communities with the Gospel.
 - Pray for Missional Communities to multiply into new neighborhoods.
 - Pray for new DNA groups to start.
- **Local:**
 - Pray for the Storyformed Way, a 10-week journey through the Story of God. Pray for open and receptive hearts and for God to use this journey to draw people to Himself.
 - Pray that God would burden us with the lostness in our cities, neighborhoods, and at work.
 - Pray that God will identify 5 people you can begin to invest in and engage with the Gospel.
- **Global:**
 - Pray that God would give you a heart for the nations.
 - Pray for the team working in SEA, the new believers, for those who have heard the Gospel, and the church planting movement among the unreached.
 - Pray for Good Shepherd Ministries and Bill & Sandy Younger.
 - Pray for Servants Hearts Ministries and Bob & Georgette Kornegay.
 - Pray for Pastor Abraham and his church in Guatemala.