## Is Jesus God's Son? Is Jesus God?

God reveals Himself in nature, in His written Word, and in His Son Jesus. Jesus is "the Word made flesh!"

"...as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name." - John 1:12

Christ invites everyone to examine His works and words. He welcomes scrutiny and dialogue. One commonly verbalized barrier to considering Christ is the criticism of shortcomings of those who call themselves "Christians." It is important to remember that we will be held to Christ's own words, and not by comparisons we make with those around us.

If you have never truly taken the time to Consider Christ for yourself, the following study should be helpful. We offer Biblical references and several questions to stimulate your thinking.

## Some hints to get the most from your reading...

As you consider the following passages ask these three reflective questions:

- 1. What specific information are these verses communicating?
- 2. What did the words probably mean to those who were originally participating or reading? (each context will tell you who this is)
- 3. What implications do these verses contain for me and the way I believe and live my life?

Use a translation of the Bible that you can understand and are comfortable with. The New American Standard and the New International versions of the Bible are a couple of good translations from the original languages.

Meditating on the Scriptures is an engaging process. The above questions will help you to see more deeply and engage the following pages more fully!



## THE WRITTEN WORD: GIVEN TO HIS PEOPLE

Reading One: What are the potential benefits as we search the Word of Christ?
2 Timothy 3:14-17
2 Timothy 2:14-16
Colossians 3:16
Hebrews 4:12
1. What is the value of meditating on the Scriptures?
2. Why is accuracy important in Bible study?
3. How does the Word of God live inside a person?
4. What can encountering the Word of Christ do for us?
What are your personal commitments to searching the words of Christ? What emphasis do you place on God's Word in your daily life?
Reading Two: How may we respond to Christ as a living person?  Revelation 5:9-10  John 9:1-42  Matthew 28:17
What do you think about when the word worship comes to mind?
2. Why is worship of Christ necessary?

3. Why does the Bible claim that Christ by His very existence is deserving of worship?
4. What are the practical benefits for the follower of Christ as he or she follows and worships?
In what ways can you honor Christ through your life, and what do you consider personal barrier as you attempt to submit to Christ?
Reading Three: Facing the Example of Christ Hebrews 12:1-2 John 13:12-20 1 Peter 2:18-25
1. Why should we view Christ as our example?
2. What aspects of His example stand out in your mind as you read these and other passages?
3. In what ways does Christ's example transcend mere words?
List three specific ways that a man or woman can better follow the example of Christ.

## THE LIVING WORD: JESUS

Reading One: Considering my Need for Christ
Romans 3:10-12
Ephesians 2:1-9
1 John 2:2
1 Corinthians 15:3
What is the extent of sin? Why can this concept be so distastefull?
2. What are the consequences of sin?
3. What is the only remedy for sin?
4. What does the Bible indicate as the hope for those trapped by sin? What is the hope for the world?
Would you honestly call yourself a sinner? Have you ever experienced personal need for Christ? How do your personal beliefs compare to those listed within the passages above?
Reading Two: How to Receive Christ by Faith  John 1:12-13  Romans 10:8-11  Hebrews 11:1-6  Acts 16:19-31
Is there any difference between intellectual recognition of Christ and personal faith in Christ?
2. What is faith? Why is it important?

3. What does the Bible mean when it refers to the word believe?
4. What does confession have to do with salvation?
Would you consider faith an easy or difficult issue for you? Do you believe that at some point in your life you have received Christ by faith?
Reading Three: Experiencing the Assurance of Christ  1 John 5:13  1 Peter 1:3-9  Philippians 1:3-6  Ephesians 1:3-14  John 10:22-30  1. Does salvation through Jesus Christ provide benefits only for the future?
2. Who is responsible for maintaining our salvation?
3. To what extent can we count on God to complete work that He begins in us?
4. Who or what can take away our relationship with God in Christ Jesus?
In what ways do you find security in God? Just how far does that security influence your life?
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