

God Judges: Sin
God Promises: Covenant
God Incarnates: Jesus
God Saves: Salvation

Big Question: Who is Jesus?

John 4:25-26

²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ).

"When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶ Jesus told her, "I, the one speaking to you, am he."

These days, nearly everybody knows the name Jesus. Because Jesus of Nazareth is a very famous person in history, and I suppose, a very popular curse word in TV, the workplace and the school yard. But although we know the name—my neighbours on Burrendong Way know the name, my mates I play football with up at Jack Brabham Park know the name—not many of my mates really know who Jesus is. These days, the name is famous. Did you know, before Jesus died on the cross, nobody knew his name. Nobody was asking the question, "who is Jesus?" Instead, the question everybody asked was, "who is the Christ?" Everybody was waiting for God's promised Christ. The one man who would be King of all humanity, save us from sin and its consequences, and give us genuine hope for our future. Who is the Christ? When is the Christ coming? Who is it going to be?

In John 4:25–26 we read: The woman said to Jesus, "I know that the Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will explain everything to us." Jesus told her, "I, the one speaking to you, am he." This woman lived all her life under the big question, "who is the Christ." When she met the man called Jesus, he answered the big question for her. "I am the one you have been waiting for. I am the Christ."

After Jesus death and resurrection, the apostle Peter stood in front of a crowd and gave the first Christian sermon. His concluding statement, in Acts chapter 2, pierced them to the heart: "Therefore let all the house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." We might not be waiting for the Christ anymore, but people are waiting for the solution to sin and its consequences. People are waiting for genuine hope in their future. Well, you don't have to search, and you don't have to wait.

Who is Jesus? He is our solution. He is our saviour. He is God's Christ. He is our King.

The Living and Active Prayer

Gracious Father, you have saved us with a wonderful and powerful salvation.

Your word is living and active.

Today we have heard you speak, so help us not to harden our hearts but to live it out.

Forgive our failures, renew our wills, awaken our joy, and transform our lives.

May our faith be living and active in the name of your son and by your spirit. Amen.

Reflection questions

What feelings and emotions would this woman experience after hearing Jesus say, "I am he"?

What other solutions to sin or sources of hope do people look for apart from the Christ?

How could God use you to introduce the real Jesus to people around you?

Resources

This week play celebrity heads with the members of your household and discuss, what parts of our salvation rely on Jesus being the Christ?

Things All Children Should Know – Part 5c

The-Ology Chapters 27-35

PTC Course: New Testament 1

Tuesday

John 14:9

How does Jesus' identity fill us with a greater confidence, that we are following the right person?

Wednesday

Matthew 9:6

How does Jesus' identity fill us with a greater assurance, that we are truly forgiven of our sin?

Thursday

Mark 10:45

What does it mean for Jesus to be the Son of Man (Daniel 7:13-14), and how does it challenge us to be a servant of all people?

Friday

Revelation 1:8

What does it mean for Jesus to be the first and the last? How does this deepen our trust in him?