Lesson 5 - Who is Jesus?

"Who is Jesus?" This lesson answers this fundamental question while also addressing basic questions such as "Was Jesus real?" and "Did he really claim to be God?" Christ is the model for how we are to live; he is the one who saves us from our sin and gives us the hope of eternal life. He is the fullness of revelation about God and is himself God in the flesh.

Students Should Know:

- 1) Jesus is God. He is not just a king or teacher or miracle worker or wise man from 2000 years ago. He is God who became man to save us from sin and death.
- 2) The Resurrection is a historical event that gives credibility to the rest of the Gospel. Without the resurrection our faith is in vain.
- 3) The apostles had nothing earthly to gain by preaching about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. All of the apostles were martyred except John.

Video 5.1

- 1) What do you think most people, even non-Christians, like most about Jesus?
- 2) Are there ways that Jesus is still a controversial figure today?
- 3) Has your image of Jesus changed as you have gotten older? What role does Jesus play in your life?
- 4) How would you respond to someone who asks you who Jesus is?
- 5) Why is Jesus either a liar, a lunatic, or a king?

Video 5.2

- 1) How would you explain to someone that Jesus could not have been just a prophet or a wise man? What makes Jesus different from other great leaders and teachers?
- 2) Pray the prayer before a Crucifix silently. What does this prayer reveal about Jesus' love for us?

Behold, O kind and most sweet Jesus,
I cast myself upon my knees in Your sight,
and with the most fervent desire of my soul I pray and beseech You
that You would impress upon my heart lively sentiments of Faith, Hope, and Charity,
with true repentance for my sins, and a firm purpose of amendment,
while with deep affection and grief of soul I ponder within myself and mentally contemplate
Your five most precious Wounds;

having before my eyes the words which David in prophecy spoke concerning Yourself, O good Jesus: "They have pierced my hands and feet; they have numbered all my bones."

Video 5.3

- 1) Explain why God became human and came to the world. Assume the person you are speaking to knows nothing about God or Jesus.
- 2) Thomas a Kempis says the most important thing we can do is reflect on the life of Jesus and imitate him. Why do you think it's important to reflect on the life of Jesus and what can we do to spend more time reflecting on the life of Jesus?

Dive Deeper

1) The Name of Jesus is Holy. Have a discussion about how we use the name of Jesus in prayer and as an expletive. What can we do when we hear someone take the name of God or Jesus in vain?

Challenge of the Week

- 1) Memorize Matthew 16:16 Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."
- 2) Read one chapter from the Gospel of Mark every day until you finish the Gospel.