

# Garden to Garden

## Jesus, the Christ

# Week 4

### I. Who is Jesus?

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ. Matthew 16:13-20

#### Jesus is... the Son of Man

- Daniel 7:13-14
- Mark 10:45
- Luke 19:10

#### Jesus is the Son of God

- Colossians 2:9
- John 3:16
- John 17:5

"A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic - on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg - or else the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon, or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great moral teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." - C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

#### Jesus is the Christ

The term *Messiah* is a translation of the Hebrew word *mashiach*, meaning \_\_\_\_\_. The Greek translation of the word, utilized in the New Testament, is *christos*, from which comes the English word *Christ*.

According to the Old Testament, the Messiah would be God's Prophet, Priest, and King. According to Deuteronomy 18, He would be a \_\_\_\_\_ like Moses. According to Psalm 1:10, He would be a \_\_\_\_\_ and that's repeated again in Zechariah chapter 6. According to Psalm 2, and then again in 2 Samuel chapter 7, He would be \_\_\_\_\_. He would be the King in David's line. Psalm 2 says He would rule the nations of the world.

- Prophet
  
- Priest
  
- King

## II. Worthy is the Lamb - Revelation 5

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### Small Group Discussion Questions

1. How did God speak to you from today's teaching?
2. Read **John 20:30-31**. What is the result of truly believing (*trusting, relying, hoping in the fact*) that Jesus is the Messiah (Christ) the Son of God?
3. Reflecting on **Revelation 5**, where Jesus is revealed as both the Lion of the Tribe of Judah and the Lamb that was slain. How does the dual identity of Christ help you better grasp the redemption story? Why was Jesus (only) worthy to open the seal and reclaim dominion of earth?
4. **From the Homework:**
  - On Day 11, we read about God giving His people the Ten Commandments. Though they are important and are intended for human flourishing, we are no longer bound by the law. In God's great mercy, Jesus fulfilled the law through His sacrificial death, and our faith is based on our relationship with Him rather than keeping a set of rules. Still, it can be easy to feel like we have to "do enough" to earn God's favor.
    - a. Is your life characterized more by good behavior or the Gospel of grace?
    - b. Are you motivated more by God's love for you or by fear of not measuring up?
  - The dramatic tale of David vs. Goliath is theologically important and personally encouraging. We see that David points forward to Jesus who ultimately destroys the enemy. But it is also encouraging, for us to remember that we too face our giants with God's help and power. Share an example of a time when you faced a giant in your life. Or perhaps you are facing one now. Do you believe, as David did, that "God's got this!"? How can you step forward with confidence knowing that the battle is the Lord's?
  - From Harvest question, p. 89: Are you familiar with the challenging or even painful process of waiting? What are you specifically waiting on God for in this season? Take some time to reflect on God's proven faithfulness in His Word and share about the ways you've seen Him provide throughout your life. He is working even when you can't see it!