What Do I Know About **Christ?**

Before You Begin

It is absolutely humbling to consider that God wants us to have a relationship with Him. The God who made the universe (Ps. 102:25), the God whose "greatness is unsearchable" (Ps. 145:3), the God who is beyond our comprehension (Job 37:23) is the God who graciously reaches out to sinful mankind and invites us to come to Him.

We can learn much about God's amazing power, creative ability, and sovereign control just by looking at the world around us. But God chose to reveal Himself in an even clearer and more specific way. He tells us about Himself through His Word. And then He went even further by sending His own Son, Jesus Christ, to live among us. John 1 declares that we see God most clearly through the person of Christ. Jesus Himself said that those who have "seen Me" have "seen the Father" (John 14:9). It is through Christ that we learn how to enter into a right relationship with God. In fact, Christ Himself *is* the way—by coming to Him, we come to the Father. The whole point of His coming was to show us the way to God.

This Bible study is all about Jesus Christ. It is a tool for you to begin your own "biography of Jesus"—to record what you learn about Him and how knowing Him should impact your day-to-day life.

Pick one of the topics/questions listed below—or come up with one of your own. Choose a Gospel (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) to read through. These four books of the Bible contain rich accounts of the life of Christ: His words and ways, what He taught and how He lived, and, most importantly, how and why He died. Next, simply begin reading the Scripture looking for that one specific truth about Christ as you read. Record what you learn about Him in a notebook or journal. As you read, ask the Lord to help you apply what you learn to your personal life. Write down any specific "action steps" you need to take to become more like Christ. Take time to respond to God, praising Him for Who He is and asking for His help to grow and change in the areas where the Spirit has convicted you.[1]

That is the basic idea in a nutshell: **read** what the Bible says, **look** for one specific truth, **apply** what you learn to your life, **respond** to God about what you have learned. As you go through this study it is important to remember your need for God's help. Demonstrate your dependence by asking God to give you a teachable spirit and spiritual understanding.

Topics:

- How did Jesus spend His time? *(Gospel of Mark suggested)*
- How did Jesus show His devotion to God?
- How did Jesus interact with others? How did Christ show love and concern for other people in word and action? Who did He associate with? What kinds of people did Jesus invite to come and be with Him or to follow Him? *(Gospel of Luke suggested)*
- How was Jesus an example of a servant?
- What kinds of questions did Jesus ask?
- What did Jesus teach? *(Gospel of Matthew suggested)*
- What characteristics did Jesus have that I should have in my life?

[1] Create your own study or download a free, pre-designed study with space for journaling at https://beholdglory.org/consider-him/.

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- What does Jesus hate? What does Jesus love?
- What did Jesus say about my relationships (to Him and others)?
- Who is Jesus? What did Jesus say about Himself? What did He say about His relationship to the Father? *(Gospel of John suggested)*
- What do we have in Jesus? What has He given to me? What is He to me?

Example:

Consider the following example. Here is what your journal page might look like when reading through the Gospel of Mark while asking *How did Jesus spend His time?*

> **Mark 1:14-15**—Jesus constantly preached the "gospel of the kingdom of God." He called people to repent and believe the gospel.
>
> **Application:** Just as Christ spent His time telling others about eternal truth and their need to turn to God from sin, I need to use my time to tell others about the gospel. Set aside time to pray specifically for lost people I know. Ask God daily to make me alert to opportunities to share His truth.
>
> **Responding to God:** Lord, you know how I tend to get consumed in my "own things" to the neglect of the spiritual needs of people around me. Please forgive me for not telling others about you. Help me to be alert and ready to take the opportunities for sharing the gospel with others. Help me to see people as "eternal souls."

You can do this study over and over again, considering different aspects of Christ's life, seeking to answer questions like *How did Jesus spend His time?* and *How did Jesus show His devotion to God?* Boiled down, this study just presents a simple way to engage your mind and heart as you read the Scripture. Typically, we are better engaged when we are looking for something—or *Someone*—as we read.

Consider Him

That is what the writer of Hebrews commands us to do (Heb. 12:3). This means that we are to look intently and carefully at Christ. "Looking unto Jesus" literally means that we continually look away from all else and fix our eyes completely on Him alone, not allowing ourselves to be distracted. Hebrews informs us that this kind of continued gaze on Jesus actually has a significant impact on our spiritual growth, our ability to endure, how we fight sin in our lives, and the kind of perspective we maintain during times of difficulty. Because God has "*spoken to us by his Son,"* we *"must pay much closer attention"* to what He has said to us through Jesus Christ (Heb. 1:1-2, 2:1).

The Bible tells us about a man who was blind both spiritually and physically. But He was not content to remain in that condition. When he heard that Jesus was passing by, he cried out in desperation, "Jesus, have mercy on me!" Jesus stopped. He heard and answered the cry of this man. That day Bartimaeus received his sight and immediately began following after Jesus. This blind beggar knew who Jesus was and what He could do for those who came to Him in faith.

Jesus came to this earth to make Himself known. And He still delights in stopping for those who cry out to know Him. The gospels were written to show us Who Jesus is and what He is like. And like Bartimaeus, when we seek Him, our lives are changed forever. May we all learn to run our race more effectively for God's glory as we *Consider Him*.

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