

# Life Application Notes: Jesus Talks 5 - Mark 8:27-30

“Who do you say I am?”

## Introduction

This passage is all about identity – in particular Jesus’s identity. How we approach Jesus’s identity affects the whole story of the bible and completely changes the way we live our lives!

***Have you ever met someone ‘famous’?***

***How would you react if you met someone like the Queen? How would your behaviour change?***

***Can you think of examples where how you identify with someone has affected your relationship with them?***

## Digging In

How we identify with Jesus completely changes the way that we think and the way we act. It is so important to know the truth of Jesus’s identity – this is a foundational part of our faith!

### **Read Mark 8:27-30**

Jesus has shown so far through Mark that he has the authority to forgive sins, heal the sick, cast out demons, feed thousands, and calm storms. People will have had a lot of ideas of who they thought he was – regardless of if they believed he was telling the truth.

#### ***“Who do people say I am?” (v27)***

We learned in the first week of the series that Jesus wanted even his sceptics to know who he truly was.

- *Looking at the list in v28, how did people of the time view Jesus?*
- *How do people today view Jesus? (Good man? Wise teacher? Son of God?)*

#### ***“...Who do you say I am?...“You are the Messiah.”” (v29)***

- *What did the people of the time expect from the ‘Messiah’?*

The people of Jesus’s time expected the Messiah to be a powerful prophet and a perfect king. One who would bring the people of Israel deliverance from their enemies and eternal peace. They were not entirely wrong – but didn’t see the bigger picture of salvation and the kingdom of God.

- *What do people today expect of Jesus?*
- *How does Jesus’s death and resurrection point to a bigger picture view of Jesus the ‘Messiah’?*

There are two aspects of Jesus’s role and identity that are important to consider:

- *What does it mean for Jesus to be our Spiritual Leader? (GRACE, Gifts of the Spirit)*
- *What does it mean for Jesus to be our Supernatural Leader? (Viewing life through Jesus’s eyes, How do our actions promote HIS kingdom?)*

Through Jesus we can have a personal one-to-one relationship with our creator.

- *How important is it for people to ask this question for themselves? “Who do **you** say I am?”*
- *How do we apply the true reality of who Jesus is to our lives today?*

**Discuss in the group how you would apply each of these three ideas practically:**

- *Putting him first.*
- *Trusting in his role.*
- *Awaiting his kingdom.*

## Rounding Off

Jesus shows time and again throughout the gospels through what he says and does that he really is the Christ – the Saviour of the World!

### **Read Colossians 1:15-23**

Paul was confident of who Jesus was – even through prison. **When we look to Jesus’s identity we find our identity in him.**

**Pray together:**

- ***That we can be fully confident in the truth of Jesus’s identity – not doubtful as the enemy would like us to be!***
- ***That we wouldn’t rely on our own strength, but in Jesus’s victory – he is God!***
- ***For our friends and for our city, that they would see who Jesus really is!***