

Who is Jesus? It seems like a very basic question on the surface, but looks can be deceiving. The way in which we answer this question will influence how we live our daily lives and even where we spend eternity.

### Sermon Outline:

In the message this week, Todd asked the questions - "who is Jesus?" and "why does it matter?"

2,000 years ago, on the first Palm Sunday, the people of Jerusalem were excited, and not just a little excited. Think about pictures you've seen of soldiers returning to North American cities after WWII ... that kind of excited! But in spite of the excitement, most of the people in the crowd were clueless about who Jesus *really* was.

Let's explore this question from the perspective of the first century Jewish audience, but let's also consider the significance of this question for us today!

### Suggested Discussion Questions:

- What were you taught about Jesus growing up? What would come to mind when you would hear his name?
- Once you began to pursue a personal knowledge of Jesus, what changed?
- In what ways might your answer to the question "Who is Jesus" affect your everyday life?
- What circumstances were going on in your life when you started investigating faith for yourself? Was there crisis? Change? External or internal pressures?
- In Matt 16:13-17 Jesus asked the disciples who they thought He was. Peter rightly answered that Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the living God." Do you remember the moment when this truth was revealed to you? If there wasn't a single moment, describe the process.
- For those that have come to faith in Jesus, what was your biggest roadblock or challenge as you wrestled with this question? For those that haven't put their faith in Jesus yet, what are the biggest challenges for you right now?
- This question about the true identity of Jesus will continue to be relevant for all of us, regardless of our progress on the faith journey. Why is that?
- Why is it imperative that we answer this question? What is at stake? Can't we just live moral lives? Does Jesus' identity really impact our eternity?
- Pray for one another that each person would continue to grow in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.