

## INTRO

- Amongst your small group, how many different languages are spoken? Places lived?
- If you were stuck on an island, what 3 things would be essential for you to have?

## READ

Read the Apostles' Creed  
Matt 16:13-16

## REFLECT

Everybody and every religion does something with Jesus.

*Qu: If Jesus asked you today, 'who do people say that I am,' what answers would you give?*

Jesus presses further with his disciples and asks, "Who do *you* say that I am?"

*Qu: why do you think Jesus directly asks his disciples? Why is the answer important?*

The next part of the Creed we are looking at states: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.** In essence, it means we confess, believe and trust in:

- *Jesus*: the historical person
- *Christ*: God's appointed Saviour-King for the world (not a surname, but the title, "the anointed one")
- *God's only Son*: Jesus as divine—the 2nd person of the eternal Trinity (Jesus was accused of blasphemy claiming God to be his Father)

## JESUS THE DIVINE

**Read Col 1:15-20.** The Creeds are helpful in that they are able to clarify the essential beliefs of Christianity and Jesus. In the early centuries of Christianity, many sincere people wrestled over what to make of Jesus: fully divine? Fully human? Both? How?

Jesus is *truly* God, *perfectly* man, *indivisibly* one person and *distinctly* 2 natures. It's hard to get our finite minds around that, but that is what Christianity confesses and believes about Jesus.

*Qu: If Jesus is God, fully divine, what are some implications of that?*

**Revelation:** God can be known definitively and personally in Jesus (Col 1:15, John 14:9)

**Redemption:** Jesus is the only one who can bridge the gap between divinity and humanity (1 Tim 2:5)

*Qu: what aspects of revelation and redemption above have impacted your life?*

Ultimately, the Creed goes on to tell us the appropriate response to Jesus' Divinity: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, **our Lord**. We are to confess Jesus as Lord over our lives. There is a strange sense in which many feel that Jesus can be Savior with no submission to him being Lord, and this is a foreign concept in the Bible.

*Qu: If Jesus is Lord, what application should that have for our lives?*

If Jesus is God, then he is rightful Saviour, Lord and King over all creation. Therefore, he is worthy of our worship, to be fully trusted, and to be obeyed out of gratitude and love.

*Qu: What do worship, trust and obedience have to do with how we see Jesus?*

## RESPOND &amp; PRAY

- What encouraged/challenged you the most from this discussion?
- Pray for one another to live in such a way that boldly demonstrates, "I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord."