

**Encounter these verses today:**

*circle words that you identify with, underline phrases or sentences you'd like to remember, write questions about the passage out to the side ...*



**Luke 9:1-9; 18-27 :: The Reputation of Jesus**

1 When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, 2 and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. 3 He told them: "Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra tunic. 4 Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town. 5 If people do not welcome you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave their town, as a testimony against them." 6 So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.

7 Now Herod the tetrarch heard about all that was going on. And he was perplexed, because some were saying that John had been raised from the dead, 8 others that Elijah had appeared, and still others that one of the prophets of long ago had come back to life. 9 But Herod said, "I beheaded John. Who, then, is this I hear such things about?" And he tried to see him.

18 Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say I am?"

19 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life."

20 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "The Christ of God."

21 Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. 22 And he said, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."

23 Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. 25 What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? 26 If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. 27 I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God."

Who is this man?



March 18, 2012 | Pastor Terry Bate

*"Jesus asked, "Who do the crowds say I am?"  
The disciples replied, "Some say John the Baptist;  
others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets  
of long ago has come back to life."*

Luke 9:18-19

**LENT is a 40 day preparation for resurrection of Jesus!**

Examples of observing Lent include:

**Why do you think Jesus asked the question, "Who do the crowds say I am?"**

**Why would the crowds respond the way they did?**

**In your mind, how would an average person from Flushing answer the question, "Who is Jesus?"**

**How do we help "the crowds" discover who Jesus really is?**



Peter replied, "You are the Messiah sent from God!"

Luke 9:20 (NLT)

Download this sermon & outline at [www.flushingcommunity.org](http://www.flushingcommunity.org)

# Digging Deeper

[Engaging the message throughout the week]

## Monday: 03.19.2012

**Prayer Focus:** The Flushing Community

**Passage:** Luke 9:1-9

**Insight:** *Our reading this week will center around the 9th chapter of Luke. We get started today by seeing the charge that Jesus gave to followers to share the Good News of the Kingdom of God" with everyone around. We also see that Herod becomes increasingly interested as the news of Jesus spreads.*

**Questions for consideration:**

*What do you notice about the instructions that Jesus gives his disciples as they go out into the world?*

*In your mind, why is Herod so curious about Jesus?*

## Tuesday: 03.20.2012

**Prayer Focus:** FCC Church Leadership

**Passage:** Luke 9:10-17

**Insight:** *As the disciples return from their first mission trips, Jesus is very interested in how they went. So, they decide to get away and find a place to talk and share. Instead, huge crowds follow them and many are touched by the experience.*

**Questions for consideration:**

*Do you think the disciples were more concerned about the people being hungry or their own bellies?*

*Why do you think Jesus had the crowds sit in groups of 50?*

*What do you think went through the minds of the crowd and the disciples that day?*

## Wednesday: 03.21.2012

**Prayer Focus:** Easter Sunday Services

**Passage:** Luke 9:18-27

**Insight:** *Following this amazing story from Tuesday, we see Jesus asking the question of, "So boys, what's the word on the street about me?" Was Jesus worried about his reputation or was he curious about his effectiveness?*

**Questions for consideration:**

*Do you ever wonder what people are saying about you?*

*Do you wonder about that too much?*

## Thursday: 03.22.2012

**Prayer Focus:** The community of Flushing

**Passage:** Luke 9:28-45

**Insight:** *A week passes by and Jesus has an amazing experience in prayer. This was not just a vision or a dream. The scriptures say that Elijah and Moses actually visit with Jesus. Maybe this was to prove that Jesus was neither of these men (since they were obviously separate from him) or maybe this was to encourage Jesus for the days that lay ahead. Either way, it was a defining moment for Christ and his followers.*

**Questions for consideration:**

*Who would you like to spend some time with like Jesus did in this scene? A family member, a famous person?*

*Can you imagine how Jesus felt after this experience and then discovering the faith and prayer of disciples?*

## Friday: 03.23.2012

**Prayer Focus:** Our church worship services (3/25/12)

**Passage:** Luke 9:46-62

**Insight:** *Trying to put God in a box could be a similar experience as trying to fit an elephant through a dog door. Whether you seek to be the best and closest to Jesus, or if you are looking to bring unity to the movement, there is a cost to be considered in saying yes to following Christ!*

**Questions for consideration:**

*Have you considered the cost of following Christ for you?*

*Are you willing to face rebuke and rejection as you remain obedient to wherever Christ leads you?*

*Homework: share anything thoughts you have about this devotional resource with Pastor Terry this week. Email him, call him, whatever works. How can our worship experiences and discipleship moments improve?*