

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 9:18-27 :: The Reputation of Jesus

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."

Matthew 16:18-27 :: The Reputation of Jesus

13 When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

14 "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets."

15 Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?"

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

17 Jesus replied, "You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. 18 Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it. 19 And I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven."

20 Then he sternly warned the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Who is this man?



March 25, 2012 | Pastor Terry Bate

*"Then he asked them,
"Who do you say I am?"
Luke 9:20*

What are some reasons the disciples could have had doubts about who Jesus really was? Can you identify with them?

**What makes Peter's response so powerful?
What does it mean that this was revealed by the Father?**

In your mind, what changes in your life (or should change) once you realize who Jesus is?

Have you settled this question in your heart and mind? What question stands between you and your faith?



Peter replied, "You are the Messiah sent from God!"
Luke 9:20 (NLT)

Download this sermon & outline at www.flushingcommunity.org

Digging Deeper

[Engaging the message throughout the week]

Monday: 03.26.2012

Prayer Focus: The Flushing community, leadership, & officials

Passage: Luke 10:38-42

Insight: *Mary and Martha have known Jesus for some time. They are both aware of his love and authority. They both enjoy spending time with him and count him as a dear friend of the family. The feeling is mutual because Jesus will soon be moved to tears by the death of their father and bring him back to life.*

Questions for consideration:

*What do their actions tell you about who they think Jesus is?
Do you think that Mary had a better understanding of who Jesus was because she sat at his feet?
How do you think Martha felt after Jesus came to Mary's defense?*

Tuesday: 03.27.2012

Prayer Focus: FCC Church Leadership

Passage: Matthew 9:27-34

Insight: *Jesus had amazing authority over things physical and spiritual. Demons were having their way with so many people which caused all kinds of physical distress. As Jesus delivers people from this form of bondage the Pharisees believed he was doing it by some other authority than God's.*

Questions for consideration:

*Why do you think it was so difficult for the Pharisee's to embrace Jesus as God's Son, their Messiah?
Do you think their rejection of Jesus hindered others from believing?*

Wednesday: 03.28.2012

Prayer Focus: Easter Sunday Services

Passage: Luke 1:26-56

Insight: *Does it feel strange to read this story as we prepare for Easter? I wanted us to think about Mary's exposure to Jesus while we ask ourselves, "Who Is this Man?" Mary and Joseph both were given miraculous signs that Jesus was special and from God.*

Questions for consideration:

*What do you think went through Mary's mind as she raised Jesus?
Do you think there were ever doubts in her mind about Jesus being the Messiah and God's Son.
Do you think she kept quiet about this ... or did she tell everyone?*

Thursday: 03.29.2012

Prayer Focus: The sick and recovering (iPray sheets)

Passage: John 6:25-59

Insight: *Jesus is in the midst of a major teaching moment. He is sharing about the simple trust that is required to experience the Lord instead of the weight and burden of rules and law which all in attendance were accustomed to.*

Questions for consideration:

*Put yourself in the audience as Jesus is sharing ... can you understand his words or are you confused by the idea of eating?
Are you hungry for the things of God?
Do you thirst for His Presence to flood your daily life?*

Friday: 03.30.2012

Prayer Focus: Our church worship services (4/01/12)

Passage: John 6:60-71

Insight: *No doubt this was difficult teaching. Jesus was giving everyone a great deal to chew on and consider. Yet the biggest issue remained that even his 12 disciples couldn't agree on the simple truth behind his words. When God doesn't fit in our pre-made boxes, that's a tough place to be.*

Questions for consideration:

*What are your major doubts in believing in Jesus as Messiah?
Can you put your whole trust and faith in Jesus to save you, redeem you and connect you to the Almighty God?*

Wednesday Night

BOOST

**Get ready for our
spring session!**

April 11 - May 23

Ladies: "Mercy Triumphs" by Beth Moore. Discover what faith in Jesus can do for you as you journey through the book of James!

Men: We are still determining our study. This group will continue to meet at the Salem's home - all guys are welcomed!

The Book of Acts: Mike DeVuyst will be leading a great discussion on the book of Acts.

Children: Will be looking the Lord's prayer and Club 56 will be going through the book of Daniel.

Youth: Will be meeting at Pastor Joel's and going through the Mosaic Experiment looking at ancient practices of faith.