



Good Shepherd  
Sermon-Based Study Guide  
Mark 8:27–33 | March 1, 2026

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## I. Introduction to this Study

During this season of Lent, we are walking with Jesus on his journey to the cross, learning more about who He is and what He came to do. In this passage, Jesus asks his disciples a question that still confronts us today:

“Who do you say that I am?”

Peter answers correctly that Jesus is the Christ, but he soon discovers that he does not fully understand what that means. Like many in Jesus’ day, Peter expected a Messiah who would bring victory and power, not suffering and the cross.

Lent invites us to set aside our expectations and see Jesus more clearly. As we study this passage, we are invited to consider Jesus’ question for ourselves: Who do you say that He is?

## II. Connecting with One Another

Have you ever expected something to be one way — a movie, a restaurant, a trip, or even a person — and then discovered it was completely different? What surprised you?

## III. Study the Text

*Read Mark 8:27–30*

- Why do you think Jesus begins by asking what “others” are saying about Him before asking the disciples directly?
- What do the different answers (John the Baptist, Elijah, one of the prophets) reveal about how people understood Jesus?
- Why is Peter’s confession — “You are the Christ” — so significant?

*Read Mark 8:31–33*

- *Why does Jesus immediately begin teaching about suffering, rejection, death, and resurrection?*
- *Why do you think Peter rebukes Jesus? What does this reveal about Peter’s expectations?*



- *What do you think Jesus means when He says Peter is setting his mind on “human concerns” rather than “the concerns of God”?*

#### IV. Reflect and Respond

Many people today still answer Jesus’ question in partial ways:

- A good teacher
- A moral example
- A personal friend
- A helper in times of need

In what ways are these descriptions true? In what ways do they fall short of confessing Jesus as the Christ?

Jesus is the Anointed One — our Prophet, Priest, and King.

- As Prophet, where is He calling you to listen more closely?
- As Priest, where do you need to trust His saving work rather than your own effort?
- As King, where is He calling for greater surrender?

#### V. Prayer

Spend time in prayer together:

- Thank God for sending Jesus as the Christ.
- Ask God to help you see Jesus more clearly.
- Ask for the courage to follow Jesus as Prophet, Priest, and King.

#### VI. Digging Deeper

Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ — God’s Anointed One — but he struggled to understand what kind of Messiah Jesus would be. Throughout Scripture we see that the Messiah would serve as Prophet, Priest, and King, bringing salvation not through power alone, but through suffering and sacrifice.

Look up the following passages and consider what they teach us about Jesus as the Christ.

- Isaiah 53:3–6
- Hebrews 4:14–16
- Deuteronomy 18:15–19
- Psalm 2:6–8
- Luke 1:32–33

