

2. Jesus called Peter's words "the things of man." How can well-meaning people close to us sometimes pull us away from what God has called us to?
3. Read John 13:3–5. What did Jesus know about Himself in verse 3, and how did that free Him to wash the disciples' feet? How might security in who you are in Christ change the way you serve others?
4. Each of Satan's wilderness temptations began with "If you are the Son of God..." In what ways are you tempted to prove your worth through performance rather than rest in your identity in Christ?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17–21. What does it mean that you are a new creation and "the righteousness of God" in Christ? Is there an old identity or something in your past you still find yourself defined by?
6. How does being confident of who you are in Christ set you free to live on mission for Him?

Sermon Discussion Points for



Calvary Chapel Groups
Sunday, October 11, 2026

CALVARY
— O X N A R D —

First

Read Mark 8:27-33 – Jesus asked His disciples two questions – “Who do people say I am?” and “Who do YOU say I am?” Jesus having a right understanding of His identity was critical for Him to fulfill His calling. Just as critical for the followers of Jesus is to have a correct understanding of who He is, and who they are in relationship to Him.

When someone asks you to describe who you are, what are some of the first things you would mention? Our culture puts a lot of weight on how people “identify.” What are some of the ways you’ve seen people build their sense of who they are?

Vs.27-28– Jesus Is Not Just a Prophet

1. Jesus already knew what people were saying about Him. Why do you think He asked the disciples anyway?
2. The crowds had good things to say about Jesus, but all of their answers were too small. What do people say about Jesus today? Why are people comfortable with Jesus as a teacher or moral example but push back on Him as God and the only way of salvation?
3. Read John 14:6. Why does getting Jesus’ identity right matter so much? What’s at stake if we get it wrong?
4. How might someone acknowledge Jesus as a good teacher while still rejecting His authority over their life?
5. How can we lovingly explain to someone that Jesus is more than a prophet or moral example?

Vs. 29-30 – Jesus Is Christ the Messiah

1. Jesus shifted the question from “Who do people say?” to “Who do *you* say?” Why is it not enough to know what others believe about Jesus?
2. Peter gave the right answer but had the wrong expectations. What kind of Messiah were the disciples hoping for, and how was Jesus different?
3. The disciples expected a Messiah who would defeat their political enemies. How might our own expectations of Jesus differ from what He actually came to do?
4. Read John 18:36. How is Christ’s Kingdom “upside down” compared to the kingdoms of this world? What does it look like to engage as citizens while not trying to advance God’s Kingdom through power or politics?
5. Jesus advanced His Kingdom through humble service rather than earthly power. What might that look like in our church, workplace, or community?

Vs. 31-33 – Jesus’ Identity Informed His Mission

1. Peter rebuked Jesus right after confessing Him as the Christ. Why do you think the idea of a suffering Messiah was so hard for him to accept?

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