

“Jesus” | The story of Jesus

GETTING STARTED: Rayburn Martin (long-time South Sider) will turn 100 on October 7! Who do you know that has had a major birthday milestone? When have you (or someone close to you) had a memorable birthday celebration?

EXPLORE THE TOPIC:

1. What is your earliest memory of someone presenting the gospel? Where were you? What do you remember most? What did you learn from this experience?
2. Read Luke 19:10, John 3:16 and John 10:10. How do these following gospel passages summarize Jesus’ mission? How does this mission help cement Jesus as the center of the gospel? How does this mission connect to our one-sentence gospel summary (see “Apply the Truth” to the right)?
3. Have you read all four gospels accounts (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John)? What led you to do this, or what is holding you back? How familiar do you feel Christ-followers should be with these writings?
4. Jewish people in the first century were expecting their God to come back in person to rescue them, revealing his glorious presence, defeating their enemies, and reestablishing them as his people once and for all. How were there expectations met with Jesus? How might they have been confused with Jesus?
5. Read Luke 3:16. History tells us that unwrapping a master’s sandal was seen as too demeaning for a Hebrew to perform. How do John’s words (as recorded by Luke) help convey the significance of Jesus?
6. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John all describe Jesus in different, personal ways. How might your presentation of Jesus differ

with one offered by someone else? How does that impact the overall gospel message?

7. When have you seen someone experience life change as a result of placing their faith in Jesus? How have you experienced that in your own life? How can those moments help anchor Jesus as the center of the gospel message?

APPLY THE TRUTH:

Jesus is at the very center of the gospel message. His name also appears at the center of our one-sentence gospel summary:

“The gospel is the story of God, renewing his broken creation and rescuing his wayward people through the work of Jesus, while reconciling humanity and readying them for life in God’s kingdom now and forever.”

How would you describe Jesus to someone? Consider taking time this week to write a narrative of your account with Jesus. This may prove helpful as a way to prepare to share your story with someone else. You could accomplish this by starting with the question, “Who is Jesus?” Pair off with someone in your small group and take turns giving an overview of this testimony experience.

PRAY:

Take time this week to pray for South Side’s efforts to live out the great commission to make disciples who can make disciples.

NOTES:
