

“Who Is Jesus?”

General Comments: This is the Saturday morning meditation, and the Pastor may choose from either the Luke passage (“Emmaus Road”), or the Mark or parallel passages (“Caesarea Philippi”).

The guests will this day be exposed to the “ways and means” of genuine Christianity. If Grace is received, that is, if by the end of the first day, the guests are at the point of saying, “Yes, this is what I want,” then the whole point of the second day is to demonstrate ways they may “take what they want,” or how they may begin to incorporate God’s gift of himself (his Love) into their lives.

So, either the “walk with Christ” of the Emmaus Road, or the Caesarea Philippi “quiz” provides the scripture of the day by which the guests are invited to “recognize and engage the person of Christ in their life journey.”

1. Luke 24:13-35 “The Road to Emmaus”

--Work the meditation along the lines of knowing about Jesus versus knowing him; concluding with his revealing himself fully (becoming known) to those who seek him.

a. Vss 18-24

The two men knew about Jesus

--”the things about Jesus of Nazareth”

mighty prophet

handed over to death by crucifixion

not who we thought he was going to be

some reported him alive-after-death,

etc., etc.

b. But they did not know Jesus, else they would have recognized him; he was right there

c. Vss 28-35

Jesus revealed himself in the setting of their hunger

--they had invited him to stay

their hearts had been “burning within them”

there was something about him that made them

want to know him better.

d. And, knowing Jesus, what did they do? How did they respond?

How do we?

What will we do?

E. Neither these questions nor our answers to them are

limited to worship or holy times;
Instead, we answer them always, constantly, wherever
we are, whatever we are doing.
And we answer them whether we're conscious of it
or not; when we ignore them
and even when we run away from them.

2. Mark 8:27-33 (or parallels), "Caesarea Philippi"

The point is direct, "Who do we say that he is?"

The leader may want to "pair" this passage with Psalm 8, in which the question is "Who am I?" (i.e. "What is humanity?") and the (God's) answer is, "but you crown us with glory", etc. Today's question, in response, is "Who is Jesus?" Who is Jesus that we should be mindful of him? Or "What do we do with the grace that was proclaimed to us yesterday?"

- a. We know or think of the Bible as a, if not the, Book of Answers;
for all its demands
commandments
expectations
teachings and preachings, etc.
It confronts each one of us with
questions
- b. List them: for example,
Am I my brother's keeper?
What is truth?
What does it profit a person if he gains the
whole world but loses his soul?
Who is my neighbor?
If God is for us, who can be against us?
What must I do to inherit. . . .?
- c. This weekend there are two overriding questions:
 1. Yesterday's "Who is humanity? I.e. Who am I?" that God should pour out God's unconditional love in God's unflagging zeal with his unwavering acceptance of us?
 2. Today's is: the Jesus Question, "Who do you say that I am?"
 3. Neither question nor our answers to them are limited to worship or holy times...
we answer them always
constantly
wherever we are
whatever we're doing

4. We answer them whether we're conscious of it or not
when we ignore them
even when we run from them
5. The Jesus Question is the question of Christ as the one having authority
over our thoughts, intentions, and actions.
6. "Who do you say that I am?"