

Who Do You Say I Am?

1. Our kids will make their own choices.
2. We want to be faithful with the gift that is our children; God's children.
 - 1 Cor. 3:6
3. Fear focuses our lens on the amount of control we have.
4. God wants us to trust in Him.
5. Rarely do our kids hear about Jesus' messiahship.
6. The Old Testament doesn't label which verses talk about the coming Messiah.
7. For most of his ministry, Jesus told people to keep signs of His identity a secret.

Peter's Confession (Mark 8:27-31)

8. The key to Jesus' response goes back to Jewish expectations.
9. Some people expected a warrior king.

Jewish Leadership

10. The high priest directly asked Jesus if He was the Messiah.
 - Matt. 25:57-68
 - Mark 14:53-65
 - Luke 22:66-71
11. Jesus says the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of God.
 - Psalm 110:1
12. A Son of Man would come with "clouds of heaven."
 - Daniel 7:13-14
13. Jesus claims messiahship by saying "I am" or by applying prophecies to Himself.

What Prophecies Did Jesus Fulfill?

14. The list can be dozens to hundreds!

- *Lineage.* A descendant of Abraham, through the line of Issac, Jacob, Judah, Jesse and King David (Gen. 12:3, 17:19, 49:10; Numbers 24:17; Isa. 11:1; Jer. 23:5).
Fulfillment: Matthew 1:1-17
- *Birth:* Born of a virgin in Bethlehem (Isa. 7:14; Mic. 5:2).
Fulfillment: Matthew 1:23, 2:1-2; Luke 2:4
- *Miracle Worker.* Healer of the blind, deaf, lame and mute (Isa. 35:5-6, 42:7, 53:4).
Fulfillment: Matt. 8:16-17, 11:4-6; Luke 7:20-23.
- *Ministry:* Rejected by His people and with great suffering (Isa. 53).
Fulfillment: Luke 23:13-21; John 12:37-41
- *Death:* Betrayed by a friend for 30 pieces of silver (Zech. 11:12, 13:16).
Fulfillment: Luke 23:13-21; John 12:37-41
- *Deserted by disciples* (Zech. 13:7).
Fulfillment: Matt. 26:56
- *Mocked* (Ps. 22:7)
Fulfillment: Matt. 27:27-31
- *His hands and feet pierced* (Ps. 22:16)
Fulfillment: Matt. 27:32-35
- *Lots cast for His garments* (Ps. 22:18)
Fulfillment: Matt. 27:35
- *Bones not broken* (Ps. 34:20).
Fulfillment: John 19:31-36
- *Resurrection:* Resurrected to God's right hand (Ps. 110:1; Isa. 25:7-8)
Fulfillment: (we'll discuss next week or in the summer)

15. The probability of fulfillment by one person is very small.

- Jesus was the promised Saviour of the world.
- The Bible accurately told of His arrival hundreds of years before He was born.

Three Keys

1. The messianic expectations held by Jewish people before, during and after the time of Jesus were highly diverse because of varied views on which OT verses were prophecies and how best to interpret them.
2. Three key events demonstrate that Jesus claimed to be the Messiah: Peter's confession, the triumphal entry and the examination by Jewish leadership.
3. Any one fulfilled prophecy may not be compelling evidence, but taken together, the probability of fulfillment by one person is miniscule. Jesus is the only one who matches the entire profile.

Opener

- When you think of the Old Testament, what events or people come to mind?
- Have you heard that the Old Testament made predictions of a coming Saviour known as the Messiah?
 - Explain that Christians believe Jesus fulfilled these predictions and that if He did, that's powerful evidence the Bible is God's Word.

Going Further

- Read Mark 8:27-31. Why do you think Jesus warned Peter to keep His identity a secret if He was the Messiah?
 - Jews at the time had varying expectations of the Messiah depending on their interpretation of the Old Testament.
 - The popular view of Jesus as a political warrior would affect the claims Jesus could publicly make.
- Read Zechariah 9:9, then Mark 11:1-10. What do Jesus' actions in Mark say about who He claimed to be?
 - He intentionally entered Jerusalem in a way consistent with prophecy, so this was a claim to messiahship.
- We know that Jesus claimed to be the Messiah from the verses we just read and others. But others have claimed to be the Messiah too! To know whose claim we should believe, we have to look at who fulfilled prophecies they couldn't have chosen to fulfill.
 - Walk through the prophecies listed in this chapter in age-appropriate depth. Look up both prophecy and the fulfillment verses for at least one. Emphasize how small the chance is that all the prophecies could be fulfilled in one person and that Jesus uniquely matches the profile.

Application

- In a random online forum a person asked, "Why do Christians believe that Jesus was Christ (Messiah)?" Someone responded, "There is every reason for Christians *not* to believe that Jesus was 'the Christ.' It was the apostle Paul who never knew Jesus . . . who 'made' him into 'the Christ' well after his failure to merit the title." How would you respond to this person's claim that Paul created the idea that Jesus was the Messiah years after Jesus' death?