Let's Talk About: Jesus

Hope CDA is a Christian program. This means that the program is based upon the life and teachings of Jesus recorded in the Bible. It also means that all participants, staff, and volunteers are expected to live a life that embodies and models Jesus.

So, let's begin with the most obvious question: Who is Jesus?

He is God

One of the most hotly debated arguments related to Jesus is if He is God. Do you believe that Jesus is God? Why or why not?

Many religions, including Mormonism and Jehovah's Witness, do not acknowledge Jesus as God. They argue that Jesus never said, "Hey, I am God." However, He continually made points that made it clear that He is God.

Read Mark 2:1-12. Does Jesus equate Himself with God?

What proof does He use to show that He is God?

Read John 10:30-33. How did Jesus explain that He is God? Do you think others clearly knew that Jesus was saying He was God?

Do you think there is any doubt that Jesus made it clear that He is God?

A Personal God

One of the things that makes Christianity different from so many other religions is the personal relationship that each of us has with our God. In Matthew 6:9-13, Jesus explained to His followers how to pray. What are the first two words of this prayer?

What does that tell you about the relationship that God wants us to have with Him?

Read Matthew 11:28-30. What does Jesus call us to do?

Do you think this message presents Jesus as welcoming, as someone who wants to have a relationship with you?

Jesus wants to have a personal relationship with each one of us. Think for a moment about how you build relationships with others. What would it take for you to call someone a friend?

Would you call Jesus your friend? Why or why not?

In John 15:15, Jesus told His followers, "No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you."

What does it mean to you to know that you are a friend of Jesus?

As His friend, what does Jesus want you to know?

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He Is the Source of Forgiveness

We are friends with Jesus. A friend is someone that you trust, rely on, and believe will help look after you. One of the most important ways that Jesus cares for us is through the salvation offered through His sacrifice on the cross.

What does it mean that Jesus died on the cross for your sins?

1 John 2:2 tells us, "**He is the propitiation** (the sacrifice that holds back the wrath of God) **for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world**."

Jesus paid for the sins of the world, including your sins. Do you believe that Jesus paid for your sins?

What does it mean to you to know that He has?

Read Isaiah 53:5. Explain what this passage means to you?

Do you know that your sins are healed?

Do you know you have peace with God?

He Is King!

Many recognize the sacrifice that Jesus made. Many see Him as a friend. Often, however, many ignore the fact that He is also our King. What does that mean to you?

Psalm 103:19 reads, "**The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all**."

Revelation 19:16 tells us, "**On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords**."

Jesus is King. He is the ultimate authority over all things. He is to be King over your life. What do you think that should mean to you?

A king has full authority over his nation and people. As followers of Jesus, we are to submit to Jesus as King. Is Jesus King over your life?

If not, what things stand in the way of Him having full authority in your life?

How much better do you think your life might be if you fully submitted to the authority of Jesus as Lord over your life?

In Conclusion

How else should we see Jesus?

How has Jesus changed your life? In what ways?

Your Memory Verse: 1 John 2:2 – ² **He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world**

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