

# THE STORY OF EASTER

## His Story

### Introduction

Mark 8:27-29

In the lead up to Easter, we want to look at: who does Jesus say He is? Who does the world say Jesus is? And ultimately, who do you say He is?

How we personally answer that question, and how we understand who He is and who the world thinks He is, allows us to tell our story, to invite people into knowing Jesus; that they might experience the good news!

### Who Does the Bible Say Jesus Is?

Genesis 3:15

Someone was coming who would fix the brokenness of the fall of humanity from their intimate relationship with God.

Genesis 12:1-3

God says that He's going to bless Abraham so that he is a blessing to the entire world, and that through Abraham's descendants, the world will be blessed.

King David receives a promise that a future king would come from his line.

### Prophecies of One To Come

Isaiah 9:6-7

Isaiah also starts to paint a picture of a servant of God who would serve the people, and would suffer in His service.

Isaiah 53:1-12

There's a servant of God coming who would be offered as a sacrifice for the sins of many, who would bring healing and forgiveness to humanity, who would be cut off yet have his days prolonged, who would be the righteous one of God.

But is that who Jesus thought He was?

## **Who Does Jesus Say He Is?**

Mark 8:29

Matthew 3:17

Mark 9:7 and 13:32

John 1:1, 14

John 14:9

John 10:30-32

## **Who Did the First Christians Say Jesus Is?**

Philippians 2:5-8

Hebrews 4:14-16

Jesus showed us that God is inviting us close to Him!

## What Do We Do With This?

We see from the Gospels that when people have an encounter with Jesus, when the revelation of who He is grips them, they are changed and they cannot help but tell others!

This is why I think grasping the story goes beyond our intellect and speaks to our hearts!

For they are not the thing itself; they are only the scent of a flower we have not found, the echo of a tune we have not heard, news from a country we have never yet visited." C.S. Lewis, *The Weight of Glory*

Who does Jesus say He is? He says He is God, He is near, and that He loves you always and forever.

## Discussion Questions/Reflections

1. Spend some time reading through the scriptures listed and seeing the promises of God that Jesus came to fulfil.
2. What are other scriptures that speak to you about the promise of Jesus coming and saving?
3. How have these scriptures impacted your understanding of Jesus?

4. What would it mean for these scriptures to speak to your heart as well as your head? What does it do to your heart to hear the promises of God?
  
5. In this week ahead, as we prepare for Easter in a few weeks, meditate upon the truths about Jesus in the scriptures above – these are revelations of Jesus in Scripture. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal them afresh to your heart.
  
6. And ask the Spirit to reveal to you the people that He has been drawing to Himself, those whose hearts are longing to be captured by a story that goes beyond them, their circumstance and leads them to God who loves them with wild abandon!
  
7. Spend some time in prayer – for yourself, that your heart would be captured afresh by the love and truth of Jesus; for those who God is calling to Himself that you know and care for; for our city, nation and world to experience a revelation of Jesus as our loving and living Saviour, king and friend.