

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12TH

DAILY READING ASSIGNMENT: **Mark 6-10**

SCRIPTURE Mark 8:27-31

OBSERVATION

Contrary to popular belief, Christ is not Jesus' last name. It is his title. When Peter proclaims Jesus is "the Christ" he is proclaiming Jesus is the Messiah [v.29].

Many people thought Jesus was about to overthrow the government and reign on earth. Immediately following Peter's confession Jesus begins to teach the disciples exactly what must happen: Jesus will be betrayed, killed, then rise again after three days [v.31].

While the disciples do not yet fully grasp the magnitude of what Jesus as Messiah was going to suffer and the reality of how he will conquer, they do at this point understand that as Messiah Jesus is the long-promised Savior of the world.

APPLICATION

Muslims believe Jesus was a great prophet, though beneath Mohammad. Gandhi said Jesus was a great world teacher; but not God...just a man. Buddhists believe Jesus was a good teacher. German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche said Jesus was just an example of how we are to live – oh, and that God is dead.

Those who hung out with Jesus for years and witnessed first-hand the miracles Jesus performed proclaimed him Christ, the Messiah and Savior of the world.

Who do you say Jesus is? Once you've established that answer in your life, ask yourself one more question: do you act accordingly?

There is a popular poster I've seen displayed in many a classroom. It simply states: People may not believe what you say, but they will always believe what you do. What are you doing with the Name above all names, Jesus the Christ?

PRAYER

Lord, thank you for coming to earth, not as a temporary fix to a fleeting government, but as the eternal Messiah willing to sacrifice yourself for my sins. Help me live up to who you are in my life. Help me grow my faith one step further today. In your name I pray, *Amen*.

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