



**Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for February 14, 2010  
Released on Wednesday, February 10, 2010**

**"Peter's Answer"**

**Lesson Text:** Matthew 16:13-27

**Background Scripture:** Matthew 16:13-27

**Memory Verse:** "Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16).

**Matthew 16:13-27**

13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I, the Son of man, am?

14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elijah; and others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.

15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

20 Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.

21 From that time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

22 Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.

23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offense unto me: for thou savorest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

**THE OBJECT IN VIEW:**

Emphasize again that the One we know as Jesus was God living on earth in the form of a man.

**TRUTHS TO STRESS:**

1. Since only God's power could do the kinds of things Jesus did, His wonderful acts showed who He was.
2. It is God who enables people to recognize Jesus as His Son.

**PLANNING LESSON AIDS:**

For Telling the Lesson, find pictures of John, Jeremiah, Elijah, Peter, and a cross. Also make two signs: "Who was Jesus?" and "Christ."

For Helping to Remember, each child will need a half sheet of white art paper, crayons, paste, and a yellow strip on which is printed "The Son of the living God."

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each student.

**TEACHER'S NOTES:**

Time: A.D. 29

Place: area near Caesarea Philippi

This lesson asks again, "Who really was this Jesus who lived among us?" Jesus Himself said the answer to that question would form the "rock," the foundation, on which He would build His church. If Jesus is not "the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16), the church has no reason for being.

People were wondering about this miracle worker who healed the sick with a word or a touch. He was obviously someone special. When Jesus asked what conclusion the disciples themselves had come to, Peter was quick to voice his own conviction: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16). Sometime later Thomas would say, "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28).

**BEGINNING THE LESSON:**

Remember what Jesus did for that little girl who was being hurt by the evil spirit from Satan? Jesus sent the spirit away and made her well, something only God could do. Jesus was showing who He was. (Stand up "Who was Jesus?") He was a man and God at the same time. We cannot really understand that, but God says that is the way it was, and He knows.

Jesus made blind people well, gave speech to people who could not talk, and healed people who had never walked. Only God could do that. Jesus was showing who He was. (Point to "Who was Jesus?") He took a few little flat pieces of bread and fish and made enough food to feed a huge crowd. Only God could do that. Jesus was showing who He was. (Point to "Who was Jesus?") But not everybody believed that Jesus was God's Son, even after He had done so many wonderful things.

**TELLING THE LESSON:**

Jesus knew many of the leaders still did not know who He was. He knew people still wondered how He could do such wonderful things.

One day He said to the twelve friends who were with Him all the time, "Who do the people say I am?" (Point to "Who was Jesus?")

They answered, "Some people think you must be John, come back to life." John, you remember, was the man who stood by the river and preached that God's special One was coming. (Show John.) No, Jesus was not John.

"Some people say you must be Jeremiah or Elijah come back to life." (Show Jeremiah and Elijah.) Those were two of God's Old Testament prophets. But Jesus was not Jeremiah or Elijah.

Then Jesus said, "What do *you* think? Who do *you* say I am?"

Peter did not wait for anybody else to answer. (Show Peter.) He quickly said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Now, the word "Christ" pointed to the special Person God had promised to send. (Show "Christ.") So Peter was really saying to Jesus, " *You are* that special Person. You are God's own Son." Who was Jesus? *Somebody* believed who Jesus was. Peter did. (Show Peter.)

Now listen to what Jesus said in return. "Peter, My Father in heaven has been especially good to you. It was God who helped you know this about Me."

Even today, if people believe Jesus is the Christ, God's Son from heaven, the One who came to take away their sins, it is because God Himself has shown them.

Jesus told His friends what had to happen before it was time for them to tell people about Him. First they would go up to the big city of Jerusalem. The leaders there would do many mean things to Jesus. They would have Him killed (show cross), but after three days He would come back to life. That would show He really was God's Son. Somehow Jesus' friends did not seem to hear the part about coming alive again.

Peter was still thinking about Jesus being God's Son and that such bad things could never happen to Him. "Lord," Peter said, "those bad things will not happen to *You*."

What was really going on here? Jesus knew. Satan was trying to use Peter's words to keep Him from going to the cross to die for us. Remember that Satan is always trying to spoil what God wants to do. Jesus said, "Peter, you are not thinking about what God wants when you talk that way."

Then He told them all that the people who want to follow Jesus must choose to do what God wants, not what they want, even when doing that is hard. Dying on a cross was not easy for Jesus, but that was what would pay for our sins.

Someday Jesus will come back. Then the people who have obeyed Him will be glad, and those who went their own way will be sorry.

#### **TELLING HOW TO LIVE:**

(Draw a line through "was" in "Who was Jesus?" and substitute "is.") Have you done what Peter did? Have you believed that, yes, Jesus *is* the Christ, the Son of God, the Saviour God sent to earth to take away your sins? If you do believe that, you can be sure it was God who helped you believe.

#### **HELPING TO REMEMBER:**

The children should fold their papers in half, print "Who is Jesus?" on the front, and draw a cross. Inside let them draw the empty tomb and paste the partial verse.

#### **EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:**

**"Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16).**

Jesus asked His friends who they thought He was. Peter said, "You are the special One who God promised to send. You are God's own Son."

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Peter made a great confession about who he believed that Jesus was. However, each person must come to his or her own conclusion. Peter had done that. Others

had varying ideas about Jesus, but Peter had his own conviction, and it came to him from God.

As we share Christ, we need to make clear what the Bible says about Him and pray that the Spirit will convict unbelievers. Everyone, like Peter, needs to be able to say that Jesus is indeed the Christ, the Son of the living God.

**PRAYER:**

Dear God, we are grateful for Your wonderful acts that help us to believe in Jesus. Help us to share with others what You have done so that they may also believe, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON:**

Next week's lesson is "An Amazing Change" and tells the account of the transfiguration when Jesus was declared to be the Son of God. Study Matthew 17:1-12.

**LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:**

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The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Hrsg.), Bellingham, WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc.

The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson

## WORD SEARCH

### "Peter's Answer" (Matthew 16:13-27)

Find each of the following keywords from the lesson:

DISCIPLES

CROSS

ELIJAH

PROPHET

PETER

CHURCH

RECOGNIZE

BUILD

JOHN

JEREMIAH

ANSWER

ROCK

BLESSED

BELIEVE

CHRIST

JESUS

S H A I M E R E J C C A E L I J A H T U S E C  
C R B U I L D I R E H E E J C H R C C C H D E  
H I O E L A L L L O U J R S L P A B I I S H A  
L O E C L U A S E D R I R I L T E S U S E J V  
E S M E I P C K E S C B L E S S E D R E H H S  
E P H A E H E R L A H E R P C R O S S J E E C  
S U E L R M S T T S W H D N U S R O I D Z E T  
N P N E H T E C E R R L E E H R H A H I O C J  
H I G C S S L R U R L H R I H O N O N O S S S  
O I J K E I P E P R O P H E T S J G C I N I E  
L I E O O R I H L H T A R S W E O C E S B K U  
R H I C D H C E H S A L D E I C A J R L E C S  
E E A L I C S H O C S B R E E H D A M S C O I  
D O I I T S I I A B H P R R S E H J S R R R I  
R R S D D I D E O T P E L E E V E I L E B E S  
N P E R V P S N T V S S R I H N L E P S O P S

## SOLUTION TO WORD SEARCH

### "Peter's Answer" (Matthew 16:13-27)

H A I M E R E J C E L I J A H  
B U I L D H  
U  
R S U S E J  
P C B L E S S E D  
E H C R O S S E  
S T N Z  
T E E H A I  
S L R O N N  
I P P R O P H E T S J G  
R I W O K  
H C E C C  
C S R E O  
I R R  
D E V E I L E B