



**Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for February 6, 2011
Released on Wednesday, February 2, 2011**

"Jesus Is the Messiah"

Lesson Text: Mark 8:27–9:1

Background Scripture: Mark 8:27–9:1

Memory Verse: "Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ" (Mark 8:29).

Mark 8:27–38

27 And Jesus went out, and his disciples, into the towns of Caesarea Philippi: and by the way he asked his disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?

28 And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.

29 And he saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ.

30 And he charged them that they should tell no man of him.

31 And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

32 And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.

33 But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

34 And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

37 Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words, in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

Mark 9:1

1 And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.

TEACHER'S NOTES

There is more than one answer to the question "Who was Jesus?" He was more than mere man. He was the Son of God. He was Emmanuel—God with us, God dwelling in flesh.

He was also the Saviour Scripture had long ago foretold would come not only to save His people but also to bear the sins of the world. The Jewish nation was waiting for 'Him; yet its leadership, not recognizing Him when He came, called for His crucifixion.

Though the common people heard Him gladly, they were divided in their opinions. They searched for a reason for His remarkable words and His miracles. He was John the Baptist, risen from the dead. Or perhaps He was a risen Elijah, that prophesied forerunner of the One God said was coming. Or He could be some other resurrected prophet.

"Whom do men say that I am?" (Mark 8:27), Jesus asked His disciples one day. When they told Him, He personalized the question: "But what do you say?" (cf. v. 29).

The question reminds us that a person's relationship with Jesus (and therefore with the Father) hangs on the individual's personal response. That is what "accepting Christ" means. God says, as it were, "Jesus came from Me. I sent Him to be the Saviour of the world. There is no other Saviour." Do I accept as true God's testimony about Him? Happy is the person who can say, "Yes, yes, yes!"

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that Jesus was the Saviour God promised He would send.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

- 1.** The Saviour God promised to send was Jesus.
- 2.** Not everybody believed that Jesus was the God-promised Saviour.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS

For Telling the Lesson, find pictures of Jesus walking with His disciples, John the Baptist at the river, Elijah, a group of prophets, and Peter. Also make a cross.

For Helping to Remember, each child will need a sheet of white construction paper and crayons. Take rulers, several if possible. Make a sample to show the poem.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each student (located at the end of this lesson).

BEGINNING THE LESSON

Have you ever thought about how many questions people ask other people? They ask how to get somewhere. They ask where something is. They ask what they are supposed to do next.

Sometimes people ask a question just to find out what somebody else is thinking. Harry's teacher at school was sick, and his class was having a different teacher for a few days. At dinner-time his father asked, "What do you think of your new teacher, Harry?"

"She is nice," Harry told him. "I like her."

In the lesson today, Jesus asked a question. What kind of question do you suppose Jesus would ask?

TELLING THE LESSON

Jesus used to go from one little town to another just by walking. His close friends walked along with Him. (Show Jesus and disciples.) One day they were somewhere on the road when Jesus asked them a question.

"Who are people saying I am?"

One friend said, "Some say You are John the Baptist." (Show John.) John, you remember, was the man who used to baptize people in the river. John had died, but some people thought Jesus must be John living again because He could do such wonderful things.

Another friend said, "Some say You are Elijah." (Show Elijah.) He was one of God's helpers who had lived a long time ago. Some people thought maybe Jesus was Elijah alive again.

Someone else said, "Or maybe that You are one of the other prophets." (Show group.) Those were men who used to bring people news from God.

Then Jesus changed His question. This time He asked, "Who do *you* say I am?"

Peter did not wait for anybody else to answer. (Show Peter.) He said, "You are the Christ." That was Peter's way of saying, "You are the Saviour God chose to do a special work. You came from God. It was God who sent You."

God's people had known a Saviour was coming. God had told them. They did not understand all He was going to do, but they were waiting for Him. In a way, Peter was saying, "You are that Saviour God promised to send. That is what we say."

Jesus began teaching them then. Bad things were going to happen. The leaders would not think He was from God. They would be mean to Him. They would kill Him. (Show cross.) But there was good news too. He said that after three days, He would be alive again! Somehow His friends seemed to hear only the sad part. Peter told Him no; such bad things would never happen to Him. (Show Peter.)

Now, Jesus knew His enemy Satan was using Peter's words to keep Him from dying on the cross for us. And remember—that was why God had sent Him! So Jesus would not listen to Satan. He said Peter was not thinking about what God wanted done.

Jesus said that His followers must deny themselves and follow Him. Jesus was the Saviour God sent to take away people's sins. (Show cross.)

TELLING HOW TO LIVE

"Who do you say Jesus is?" What would you say if God asked you that question? Could you say—and mean it—"Jesus is the Christ. You sent Jesus to be my Saviour"?

HELPING TO REMEMBER

Explain that some people have poems on their wall. Show your sample; then help each child draw a frame a ruler's width from the edge of his paper. Have them print "God's promised Saviour/was His own Son." Have them draw flowers and leaves around it.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE

"Peter answereth and saith unto him, Thou art the Christ" (Mark 8:29).

Jesus had just asked His friends who they thought He was. Peter knew. He said, "You are the Christ." Peter meant, "We know You are the Saviour God promised He would send."

CONCLUSION

Children can understand that Jesus is our Saviour and that He Loves them completely just as they are.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Thank You for helping us to understand that Jesus is the One and Only Savior and Lover of our souls. Again, we thank You in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON

In next week's lesson we learn how Peter, James, and John saw Jesus shining with heavenly glory and heard God say, **"This is My beloved Son."** Study Mark 9:2-13.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY

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The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books

WORD SEARCH

"Jesus Is the Messiah" (Mark 8:27-9:1)

Find each of the following keywords from the lesson:

ASHAMED
DENY
FATHER
GOD
LIFE
REBUKE
SOUL

CHRIST
DISCIPLES
FOLLOW
JESUS
MESSIAH
SAVE
SUFFER

CROSS
EXCHANGE
GLORY
KINGDOM
POWER
SON
TEACH

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

21 words were placed into the puzzle.

SOLUTION TO WORD SEARCH

"Jesus Is the Messiah" (Mark 8:27-9:1)

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+ + + + + + + + M F + + + + +
R E F F U S + + O O + + + + H
E G N A H C X E D L D + + A R
+ + S + + + + I G L O + I E +
+ + + S + + S + N O G S B + R
+ + F + O C + D I W S U + E +
+ D + A I R + E K E K + W + +
+ + E P T + C N M E + O + + +
+ G L M N H + Y + + P + + + +
+ E L O A + E L S T E A C H L
S + S O + H + R U + + + + I +
+ + C H R I S T S O + + F + +
+ + + + + Y + A E + S E + + +
+ + + + E V A S J + + + + + +
+ + + + + + + + + + + + + +
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(Over, Down, Direction)

ASHAMED (8, 13, NW)

CHRIST (3, 12, E)

CROSS (7, 8, NW)

DENY (8, 6, S)

DISCIPLES (9, 3, SW)

EXCHANGE (8, 3, W)

FATHER (3, 6, SE)

FOLLOW (10, 1, S)

GLORY (2, 9, SE)

GOD (11, 5, N)

JESUS (9, 14, N)

KINGDOM (9, 7, N)

LIFE (15, 10, SW)

MESSIAH (9, 8, NE)

POWER (11, 9, NE)

REBUKE (15, 3, SW)

SAVE (8, 14, W)

SON (3, 11, NE)

SOUL (11, 13, NW)

SUFFER (6, 2, W)

TEACH (10, 10, E)