

Thursday the 28th May 2015
 Mitchell High School Seminar 2, 2015

Who is Jesus and why does it matter?

Game: Mistaken Identity

Does it matter who we think Jesus is?

Leader: Josh

Pictures of different pairs of celebrities that often get mistaken for one another. A few pics of the same pairs and they must guess which one is which. Then explain how these celebrities often get mistaken for each other. Then pose the question- does it matter who we think someone is?
 Then show pictures of people who have been mistaken for criminals. It mattered to them!
Then pose the question- does it matter who we think Jesus is?

5 mins
slideshow

Video- Jesus Dilemma

Leader: Josh

Video that poses questions about who people think or have thought Jesus is.
 Pose the question how do we know who Jesus is? The bible tells us but can it be trusted?

2 mins
Clip

Illustration- who would you trust?

Leader: Bernie

An illustration using an object in a box and a few witnesses- one the person who put it in the box, another the person who was with them, another a person told by person who was there and the last told a few days later by the person only told by another what's in the box.
 Whose description would you trust the most? – The person who put it in the box or the person standing right there when they did it of course!

5 mins
Box, gift, leaders

Video- Lee Strobel testimony

Leader: Glenn D

Lee Strobel was an atheist journalist who sought to investigate the claims of Jesus because his wife became a follower. His investigation led him to become a follower as well. – If the bibles claims of Jesus can be backed up historically- he was a person and was crucified etc. If these can be trusted then it stands to reason all that it says of Jesus can be trusted as well. Lee discovered it can be trusted in terms of being a historical document etc. and as a result he said that it demanded a response from him.
 Today we are going to look at who the bible says Jesus is and why it matter to us!

5 mins
clip

What's in a name?

Leader: Bernie

Ask students if they know what their name means. Use a name meaning book to look up names of some students who don't know their names meanings. Perhaps mention some celebrities who have named their children bizarre names recently. Also the royal baby- protocol dictated that babies name- with a bit of influence from parents....Then pose the question- does their name tell us who they are? What they are like etc.?- – Not really tells us more about what their parents are like- even the royal babies name merely tells us she is a royal and in line for the throne- not much about what kind of person she will be!
 Most of the time we don't even really know the meaning of our names- we can know why we got the name but not often will we care what the name means. (Except maybe to have it on a key ring!)
 Our name might not tell people about who we are but often we have other things we are called that will- perhaps we have a title before our name- the royal baby does, married people do (MR, MRS) doctors do! Perhaps we have a nickname given to us by our friends/ family that helps describe a bit about who we are. Look on the year 12 jerseys or jackets to see a few!
 What's this got to do with who Jesus is? Jesus has over 200 nicknames! Well things he is referred to as that help us understand who he is! We don't have time for all 200 names but we are going to look at a few!

5mins
Name meaning book

Jesus

Matthew 1:21+25

Leader: JJ or Bernie

The most obvious name that we should look at is the names Jesus! What does it tell us about Jesus? Well firstly that he was a man. He was named by his father (God- Jesus' heavenly father- told his earthly father- joseph- what to call him and joseph gave him the name Jesus) Jesus was a real man, he was born, he grew and learned and he died.

3 mins

Game- Lego man rescue		
		<i>Leader: JJ Or Bernie</i>
<p>5 volunteers race to melt an ice cube each, to rescue a Lego man frozen inside. First to free their man from the ice wins.- they must melt the ice over a container so water doesn't drip on the floor! (Have a bucket of warm water and hand towels available for students to warm hands afterwards.)</p> <p>What's ice made out of? Water that frozen. Is the ice water? No its ice, is the water ice? No its water. But they are essentially made out of the same thing. They are the same but not the same at all.</p> <p>What's this got to do with Jesus and who he is? Well the bible says he is human. Fully human- he was born- fed by his mum, looked after, he grew up at the same rate as the rest of us- he isn't superman! And he ate, drank, slept and was even emotional. He died. But the bible also has other names that tell us other things about Jesus.</p>		<p>10 minutes</p> <p><i>Lego men frozen in ice cubes towels, warm water Long plastic containers</i></p>
Immanuel		
<i>Matthew 1:23</i>		<i>Leader: Glenn</i>
<p>Around the same time Jesus was named we hear him referred to as Immanuel. You have no doubt heard this name used at Christmas time. It means "God is with us" you see Jesus isn't just human- he is also God. God come to earth as a human but with a purpose- the name Jesus tells us this purpose- it means Saviour- "he will save his people from their sin" he did this on the cross- Jesus was fully human in every way- except that he never sinned. He always followed God. So when he died on the cross he took the punishment we deserved.</p> <p>Back to the ice and water- they are essentially the same but they aren't they are different as well. Jesus is fully human but also fully God! Just like Ice is water but it's not its ice!</p>		3mins
Watch- Jesus by God stuff explained		
		<i>Leader: Glenn</i>
A short clip explaining who Jesus is, why he came and why it matters to us today.		5 mins <i>Clip</i>
LORD/ KING		
<i>Acts 2:36</i>		<i>Leader: Glenn</i>
<p>Jesus is also commonly referred to as Lord or King. This is important as it's a response to his being God come to earth as a HUMAN to live a perfect life and die the death we deserved so we don't have to be separated from God. You see if the bible can be trusted historically- Lee Strobel's research says it can, then we know Jesus really is a man and we can assume that he is therefore really God- as the bible says he is. This the demands a response from us. The right response is to recognise the name God gave Jesus- that of lord over us.</p>		
Blindfolded Colour sorting game		
		<i>Leader: Glenn</i>
<p>In response to who Jesus is and what he has done we are called to trust in him for forgiveness from God and put our lives in his hands- making him the Lord of our lives.</p> <p>4 volunteer. 2 from each side of the room. They must race to sort coloured balls into containers. Only the person blindfolded can touch the balls. They must listen to their un-blindfolded team mate to know which container to put each ball into.</p> <p>The person sorting the balls couldn't see- they couldn't actually do the task without listening too and trusting what their team mate said to them.</p> <p>We are like the blindfolded person- we can't see what's right around the corner in life. But Jesus knows and he calls us to trust him as Lord of our life- to follow what he says and to daily ask him to guide us and help us through life.</p>		<p>10 mins</p> <p><i>blindfolds, containers, balls.</i></p>
Watch-Who is Jesus (clip)		
		<i>Leader Josh</i>
A short clip wrapping up the names of Jesus and why it matters to us who Jesus is.		5 mins <i>clip</i>
Why it matters who Jesus is (clip- you have permission to...)		
<i>John 10:10</i>		<i>Leader: Josh</i>

John 10:10- Jesus came so that we might have life in abundance. A full life- the fullest we can get- if we follow him. Watch short clip called you have permission (to....LIVE!)

3 mins
Clip