

***That You May  
Know...(Luke)***

**Who do you Say I am?**

*Luke 9:18-22*

Are You Drawing Near? (9:18)

Are You Part of the Crowd? (9:18)

Have You Confessed Him as Christ? (9:20)

## That you may know... (A Series in Luke) [Who do you Say I am?- Luke 9:18-22]

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### Introduction

⇒ Who do the crowds say I am? What better way to answer this than to look at our music

- Jesus take the wheel (2005)

Jesus take the wheel  
Take it from my hands  
Cause I can't do this on my own  
I'm letting go  
So give me one more chance  
Save me from this road I'm on  
Jesus take the wheel...Im sorry for the way I have been living my life... I  
know I have to change

I am Sorry, I need to change, take charge

{Gospel→ repent, you cant change, new creation}

- Jesus Walks (2004)

God show me the way because the Devil's tryin' to break me down  
(Jesus Walks with me)  
The only thing that I pray is that my feet don't fail me now (I want Jesus)  
(Jesus Walks)  
And I don't think there is nothing I can do now to right my wrongs  
(Jesus Walks with me)  
I want to talk to God, but I'm afraid because we ain't spoke in so long  
(I want Jesus)

Help my life right now

- Like Jesus does (2011)

All the crazy in my dreams,  
Both my broken wings,  
Every single piece of everything I am,  
She knows the man I ain't,  
She forgives me when I can't,  
The devil, man, he don't stand a chance,  
**'Cause she loves me like Jesus does.**

**[Jesus loves unconditionally]**

- Jesus is Just alright with me (1970)

Jesus is just alright with me, Jesus is just alright, oh yeah Jesus is just alright with me,  
Jesus is just alright I don't care what they may say, I don't care what they may do I don't  
care what they may say, Jesus is just alright, oh yeah Jesus is just alright

**Recorded as an original gospel song**

**Became a popular (I am cool and He is cool with me/Jesus is my homeboy)**

- ⇒ The crowd might not give you a wrong picture of Jesus
- ⇒ The crowd will ALWAYS give you an INCOMPLETE picture of Jesus
- ⇒ **Who do you say I am?**

**Read [ Luke 9:18-22]**

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## Body

### **Are You Drawing Near (9:18)?**

- ⇒ Jesus invites you to draw near (9:18)
- ⇒ Luke pictures Jesus as being at prayer; an attitude often associated with significant events in His Ministry
  - Jesus does not wait for a significant event to pray. He lives in an attitude of prayer. We should not only be 911 prayers.
  - **Luke 3:21** When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened.

- Luke 5:16 So He Himself *often* withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.
  - **Luke 6:12** Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. (Before he chose the 12)
- ⇒ Jesus modeled to us what a close, personal, vibrant spirit looks like. It begins with prayer
- "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." (Martin Luther)
  - How close are you to the Savior in prayer today?
  - Are you snacking or feasting at the table of the Lord?
- ⇒ **Draw close to Him (The Father) in prayer.**
- ⇒ **Draw near to Him in Private**
- Jesus is alone in the sense that the **crowds are no longer with him** (ECNT)
  - If the only time you have with the Lord is in the crowd you will never grow in your faith.
  - If the only time you have with the Lord is in the crowd you will never draw near
  - **When I got married, I no longer needed to group date. I need time alone with my wife.**
  - Do you have a personal relationship or are you keeping the Savior at arms length?
- ⇒ **It was during a private moment when Jesus pressed upon the heart of His disciples**
- Jesus does not call us to Christianity lite/church lite/
  - **The close to get to Christ the deeper he pushes into your heart and soul.**

## **Are You Part of the Crowd? (9:18)**

- ⇒ **The crowd is satisfied when their belly gets full (9:17)**
- Satisfied is the same word used in Luke 6:21. **Blessed are you who hunger now, For you shall be filled.**
  - **We live in a consumer society**
    - One airline allows you at any point to yell "towel me" and an attendant will rush and place a hot, tea tree oil soaked towel around your neck
    - 1<sup>st</sup> class tickets are delicate edible wafers
    - if you own a boat one airline will put an engine in it fly it to your destination for a cool \$250,000
  - Are you following your appetite? Is this the way you approach your relationship with your heavenly father?
    - I will pray, I will draw close when I feel hungry again. Do you use phrases like: I am just not being FED
    - Are you part of the crowd?
- ⇒ **The crowd respects Jesus, but does not worship him as LORD and Messiah**
- The crowd regarded Jesus with respect, but they still lacked insight into who he really was. For Luke, the crowd refers to those who come out to see Jesus, **but did not really follow him** (8:4) (ECNT)
  - The crowd says John, Elijah, or a prophet
    - Jesus is not simply one of many people to commemorate at Christmas

- Jesus is not simply a moral teacher or a member of the religious hall of fame. This approach to Jesus is popular in our culture, since it is a **tolerant stance that does not foist his uniqueness** on anyone (NIV)
  - This denies one of the most fundamental claims of Christ: that he **uniquely represented the fulfillment of all God’s promises and uniquely showed the way** (NIV).
- Respect does not = worship.
  - Worship is a posture and profession
  - **James 2:19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!**
- Are you here out of respect obligation? May you leave the crowd and follow Christ today

⇒ To follow the crowd= to go with the masses

⇒ **Enter through the Narrow gate**→**Matt. 7:13** “Enter through the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the road is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who go through it. <sup>14</sup> How narrow is the gate and difficult the road that leads to life, and few find it.

*Today... quit following the Crowd; instead follow Christ*

## **Have You Confessed Him as Christ (9:20)?**

⇒ But you... By asking, the question of Jesus implies the **inadequacy of the popular** estimation of himself as a prophet or even as Elijah. The position of you (ὁμοῦ ) is emphatic and brings out the contrast between the crowds and disciples (NIGTC)

⇒ **Who do you say Jesus is? This is a question that is asked to every person who has ever lived. This is a question that must be answered by every individual**

⇒ Here Peter speaks up. **When Peter speaks here, he is speaking for all the disciples (ECNT)**

- Peter sees that Jesus is **unique**. Such a building block is fundamental to understanding God’s plan of redemption and its accomplishment through Jesus (NIV)
- Do you recognize that Jesus is the only and unique Son of God? For God so love his SON. ...
- **Whereas Prophet was a category that left Jesus short, ‘Messiah’ is one that places him as the promised deliverer from God (NIV)**

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⇒ **Confession, deeper spiritual growth is a mark of every believer**

- Luke 9:18-20 is important for it gives the testimony of those who followed Jesus regularly.
- They **see that he is more than a prophet**. The views of the populace at large are not sufficient. Jesus is the promised deliverer sent from God (ECNT).
- The recognition of Jesus as the Christ is **fundamental to responding to Jesus**, but it must be supplemented by an explanation of his messianic activity (NIV)

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⇒ **Your confession opens the door to discipleship**

- **The gospel of Luke comes to a major turning point in 9:18-22 as Peter confesses Jesus it opens the door for a full discussion of discipleship in 9:23-50.**

⇒ Have you confessed or are you part of the crowd?

# Conclusion

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- **But What about you?**
  - What does your life say?
  - Family? Friends? Co-workers? Sports teams? Priorities? Finances?
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- How do we respond?
  - God's Design
  - Brokenness
  - Good News
    - **Believe, Confess, Faith, Baptism**
- **You can put your faith in Jesus right were you sit**
- Opportunity to respond publically
  - Come forward
  - Connection card.. we will follow up and encourage you

# Notes

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- The theme of this passage is to answer the question: Who is Jesus? (NIGTC)
  - Peter's confession is the first of 2 key answers to the "who is Jesus?" **questions of 8:25 and 9:9** (ECNT)
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- **What had the disciples seen that the crowds had not?**
- Luke 9 closely follows Mark 8:27-30
- Luke places this event immediately after the feeding of the five thousand to more closely connect the miracle of provision with the key question of Jesus' identity. Luke's placement also puts the confession close to the mission of the 12 and Herod's speculation about who Jesus is (ECNT).
- **The gospel of Luke comes to a major turning point in 9:18-22 as Peter confesses Jesus it opens the door for a full discussion of discipleship in 9:23-50.**
- The recognition of Jesus as the Christ is **fundamental to responding to Jesus**, but it must be supplemented by an explanation of his messianic activity (NIV)
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**Luke 9:18** While He was praying in private and His disciples were with Him, He asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?"

- ⇒ **Luke pictures Jesus as being at prayer an attitude often associated with significant events in his ministry (NIGTC)**
- ⇒ Jesus is praying as he often is, before a key moment (Luke 3:21; 5:16; 6:12; 9:28; 11:1; 22:41; 23:34)
- ⇒ Private
  - Jesus is alone in the sense that the crowds are no longer with him (ECNT)
- ⇒ The disciples have just been on a long journey across the land, so surely they will have picked up speculation (ECNT)

**Luke 9:19** They answered, "John the Baptist; others, Elijah; still others, that one of the ancient prophets has come back."

- ⇒ The answers given by the disciples are the same as those in 9:7. Where they are narrated as the popular opinions which come to the ears of Herod Antipas. (NIGTC)
- ⇒ The disciples note three common responses. The basis for each possibility is tied to the prophetic character of Jesus' ministry.
  - From Luke's point of view, these responses are not so **much wrong as incomplete**. The 3 lesser possibilities match those that were mentioned to Herod (ECNT)
- ⇒ The crowd regarded Jesus with respect, but they still lacked insight into who he really was. For Luke, the crowd refers to those who come out to see Jesus, **but did not really follow him** (8:4) (ECNT)
  - The crowd sense that Jesus was a major eschatological figure.

**Luke 9:20** “But you,” He asked them, “who do you say that I am?”  
Peter answered, “God’s Messiah!”

- ⇒ The question of Jesus implies the inadequacy of the popular estimation of himself as a prophet or even as Elijah. The position of you (ὁμεῖς) is emphatic and brings out the contrast between the crowds and disciples (NIGTC)
- ⇒ Christ→
  - The title of Messiah is one that has already been applied to Jesus by the angels at his birth (2:11) and by the narrator (2:26) and it is regarded as being known to the demons (4:41)(NIGTC)
  - The meaning of christos can be broad but for Luke it clearly has Davidic and regal overtones (ECNT)
  - The title will not come into view again until the critical events of the last week of Jesus life.
  - **Whereas Prophet was a category that left Jesus short, ‘Messiah’ is one that places him as the promised deliverer from God (NIV)**
- ⇒ Peter
  - **When Peter speaks here, he is speaking for all the disciples (ECNT)**
  - **Peter sees that Jesus is unique. Such a building block is fundamental to understanding God’s plan of redemption and its accomplishment through Jesus (NIV)**
- ⇒ Luke 9:18-20 is important for it gives the testimony of those who followed Jesus regularly. They see that he is more than a prophet. The views of the populace at large are not sufficient. Jesus is the promised deliverer sent from God (ECNT).
- ⇒ Of God
  - It is thus an allusion to the fulfillment of Scripture (NAC)

**Luke 9:21** But He strictly warned and instructed them to tell this to no one, <sup>22</sup> saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, be killed, and be raised the third day.”

- ⇒ The main emphasis falls on the fate of Jesus.
- ⇒ How does Luke understand the command of silence? (Bovon)
  1. Either the title of Christ is dangerous without the correction that follows it (v.22) the prediction of the passion
  2. the leaders of the people cannot believe in Jesus messianism; therefore the ministry of the Lord may come to an end too early through their powerful intervention
- ⇒ Peter’s confession can lead to misunderstanding about what is ahead for Jesus, so Jesus immediately moves to correct that possibility (NIV)
  1. The disciples anticipate a direct route to glory. They believe power and privilege are the destiny of those associated with him.



- ⇒ Must δει the divine dei used to indicate God's design is involved in the call to suffer. This is the first Son of Man saying in Luke that refers to suffering (NIV).
- ⇒ The significance of this prediction has implications for the believer's route to blessing. Jesus walks a path that his disciples are called to follow, though such suffering may well take a different form in the 1<sup>st</sup> century (NIV)
  1. Individual choice is no longer the highest priority on the board.

# Illustrations

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## ⇒ Songs about Jesus

### 1. Jesus take the wheel

Jesus take the wheel  
Take it from my hands  
Cause I can't do this on my own  
I'm letting go  
So give me one more chance  
Save me from this road I'm on  
Jesus take the wheel

### 2. Jesus Walks

God show me the way because the Devil's tryin' to break me down  
(Jesus Walks with me)  
The only thing that I pray is that my feet don't fail me now (I want Jesus)  
(Jesus Walks)  
And I don't think there is nothing I can do now to right my wrongs  
(Jesus Walks with me)  
I want to talk to God, but I'm afraid because we ain't spoke in so long  
(I want Jesus)

### 3. Like Jesus does

All the crazy in my dreams,  
Both my broken wings,  
Every single piece of everything I am,  
She knows the man I ain't,  
She forgives me when I can't,  
The devil, man, he don't stand a chance,  
**'Cause she loves me like Jesus does.**

### 4. Jesus is Just alright with me

Jesus is just alright with me, Jesus is just alright, oh yeah Jesus is just alright with me, Jesus is just alright I don't care what they may say, I don't care what they may do I don't care what they may say, Jesus is just alright, oh yeah Jesus is just alright

“...it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing.” (CS Lewis)

“..fallen man is not simply an imperfect creature who needs improvement: he is a rebel who must lay down his arms.” (CS Lewis)

Jesus is not simply a moral teacher or a member of the religious hall of fame. This approach to Jesus is popular in our culture, since it is a tolerant stance that does not foist his uniqueness on anyone (NIV)

This denies one of the most fundamental claims of Christ: that he uniquely represented the fulfillment of all God's promises and uniquely showed the way (NIV).

## Application

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