

The welcome verse for this week is Colossians 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.”



Word in Flesh
Luke 4:14-22; John 1:1-14
Hebrews 1:1-4

The Bottom Line: Jesus is the promised prophet, speaking the word and being the Word.

Introduction:

August 15, 1988. The infamous *Time Magazine* cover poses the question, “Who was Jesus?”

Some will say that Jesus is irrelevant when he is the most relevant person in all human history.

Who was this baby boy in a manger? This Jewish carpenter from Nazareth? This teacher of the law?

More than a good teacher, more than a nice guy. It is time to rediscover the most famous man in history.

Tension:

Jesus, the good teacher, won't change your life.

Jesus, the nice guy, won't change your community.

Jesus, the political figure, won't change your world.

Truth:

Defining who Jesus *actually* is will determine who you are. It is core to understanding your life, your world, your purpose. Your answer to this question will set a foundation for all of life's greatest questions.

He was the once-and-for-all prophet, priest, and king.

Deuteronomy 18:15, “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers – it is to him you shall listen...”

Acts 3:22, *Peter testifies about Jesus*, saying, “Moses said, ‘The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you.’”

Jesus is the promised prophet, teaching God’s word and being the Word.

Hebrews 1:2, “in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son...”

John declares Jesus as the Word of God (rf. John 1:1-18). Jesus is the Word of God as the center of all creation and the unparalleled revelation of God.

Application & Conclusion:

In Luke 4:14-22, Jesus makes his first declaration as the long-awaited promised One of God. His Good News that he brings will set captives free and make the blind see. Many will marvel, but many will think he is simply “Joseph’s son.” He is so much more than that.

Recognize Jesus for who he truly is today. Receive the Good News and find joy and freedom.

Discussion questions for group this week:

- 1. What does this teach me about God?**
- 2. What does this teach me about me?**
- 3. How do I apply this to my life?**
- 4. If I could ask a question about this it would be....**