

What Do You Seek?

Take-Home 3: The Question He Asks Back

Keep your Week 1 sheet safe, box folded. We will need it.

What We Found

Even Bart Ehrman, a leading agnostic scholar, grants the floor: a real man, really crucified under Pontius Pilate. On that floor, at pagan Caesarea Philippi, Jesus took a poll and then refused to leave it there: “But who do you say that I am?” We found His favorite self-title in Daniel 7, where one like a son of man rides the clouds into God’s throne room and receives an everlasting kingdom; the title sounds modest to modern ears, but Daniel’s scene is a coronation. We cashed in last week’s premise, only God can forgive sins, against a man who forgave sins and staked public evidence on the authority, and we heard “before Abraham was, I am” land in a crowd that reached for stones because they understood. The “great moral teacher” option did not survive contact with the sources. Piece Three went on the table: the answer to the ache is not a technique; it is a person, and He asks each of us the question directly.

The Story So Far

Piece One: You were made, on purpose, for a relationship with God; the restlessness is a homing signal. Piece Two: Something real stands between us and what we were made for; the Bible calls it sin and treats it as a disease with a physician. Piece Three: The answer is a person. Jesus claimed the identity only God can hold, and He asks you directly: who do you say that I am?

Voices Worth Keeping

St. Ignatius of Antioch *Letter to the Ephesians, greeting (c. AD 107)*

Writing within living memory of the apostles, he speaks plainly of “Jesus Christ our God.”

St. Athanasius *On the Incarnation, 54*

“For the Son of God became man so that we might become God.”

St. Leo the Great *Tome to Flavian (summary)*

One and the same Christ, truly God and truly man: the Church’s enduring grammar for what Peter confessed.

Live It This Week

1. Write your honest one-sentence answer to His question. Date it. Keep it private.
2. Bring one question about Jesus you have always wanted a straight answer to; we collect them next week, no names attached.
3. Optional: read Luke 23:32-43 before next time.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

“He said to them, But who do you say that I am? Simon Peter replied, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” **Matthew 16:15-16**

Before Next Session

Read **Luke 23:32-43**. Three crosses on a hill, and a conversation between two of them.

Catechism references from tonight: CCC 424, 464, 151.