



The Gospel Of Mark

Home Group Discussion Guide

Did Jesus Claim to be God?

Mark 2:1-12

ICEBREAKER: Are you more of a dog person or a cat person? Why?

OVERVIEW: For two thousand years Christians have believed in the deity of Jesus Christ. That He is not a mere man, a great teacher or a prophet. That He is God. Indeed, this is the clear teaching of the New Testament. However, many of those who deny the deity of Jesus Christ argue that Jesus Himself never even claimed to be God. In this discussion we will discover whether Jesus claimed to be God, and why that matters.

1. Read Mark 2:5-12. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Why does it matter whether or not Jesus claimed to be God or believed Himself to be God?
3. In Mark 2:5-12 Jesus forgave a man's sins. Why is this evidence that Jesus claimed and believed in His own deity?
4. Forgiving sins is called a divine action — doing what only God has authority to do. Another example of Jesus performing a divine action was that on at least nine occasions He accepted people's worship. How is this evidence that Jesus claimed and believed to be God?

5. Read the following verses about Jesus' identity. Is there any way to interpret these verses other than affirming the deity of Jesus Christ? How would you respond to those alternate interpretations?
 - John 1:1 "In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God."
 - Romans 9:5 "And he is God, the one who rules over everything and is worthy of eternal praise! Amen."
 - Colossians 1:15 "Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation."
 - Colossians 2:9 "For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body."
 - 1 Peter 1:1 "I am writing to you who share the same precious faith we have. This faith was given to you because of the justice and fairness of Jesus Christ, our God and Savior."
6. Read the following claims that Jesus made about Himself? Do these support the idea that Jesus claimed to be God? Explain.
 - John 6:35
 - John 8:12
 - John 11:25
 - John 14:6
 - Matthew 11:28
7. Read John 8:51-53, 58-59. How is this a direct claim to be God?
8. Why does it matter whether or not Jesus is God? Why do you personally believe in the deity of Jesus Christ?

The Last Word: Jesus claimed to be God on multiple occasions and then proved it by rising from the dead. Therefore we can trust His promises and devote our lives to serving Him.