

In this passage, Jesus asks His disciples, "Who do you say I am?"

Peter responds, "You are the Christ." This moment highlights the importance of personal faith and recognition of Jesus' true identity. It's not enough to know what others believe about Jesus—we must each answer that question for ourselves. If Jesus is the Christ, then He defines your purpose, worth, and direction.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I want to know You not just with my mind, but with my heart. Help me to answer Your question honestly today: "Who do you say I am?" I confess that You are the Messiah, my Savior, my King. Teach me to follow You more closely, to trust You more fully, and to reflect You more clearly in all I do. Amen.

TAKEAWAY

Discussion Questions—Mark 8:27-30

1. How would you answer Jesus' question: "Who do you say I am?"
2. Are there ways in which you have misunderstood or underestimated who Jesus is?
3. What does confessing Jesus as Lord mean in your daily life?

ANSWERS: 1) personal conviction; 2) Messiah; 3) Savior; 4) Messianic secret

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SERMON SERIES: GOSPEL OF MARK

Pastor Harry Jones
Sunday, June 8, 2025



Week 23: Who do you say that I am? (Mark 8:27-30)

THE NEW CITY CATECHISM

(Core doctrines of the Christian faith in a question-and-answer format)

Question #1: What is our only hope in life and death?

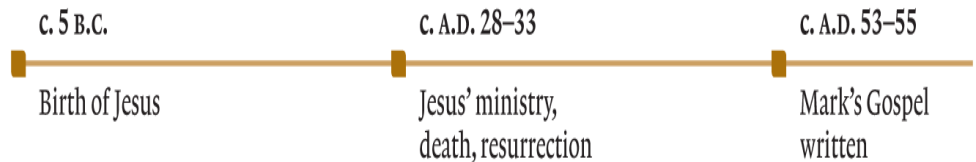
Answer: That we are not our own but belong, body and soul, both in life and death, to God and to our Savior Jesus Christ.

Romans 14:7–8

"For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's."

Key memory verse: Mark 10:45 (ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"



OUTLINE

The Presentation of the servant	The servant's ministry in Galilee	The servant's journey to Jerusalem	The servant's ministry in Jerusalem
Mark 1:1-13	Mark 1:14-9:50	Mark 10	Mark 11-16

AUTHOR, DATE, AND RECIPIENTS

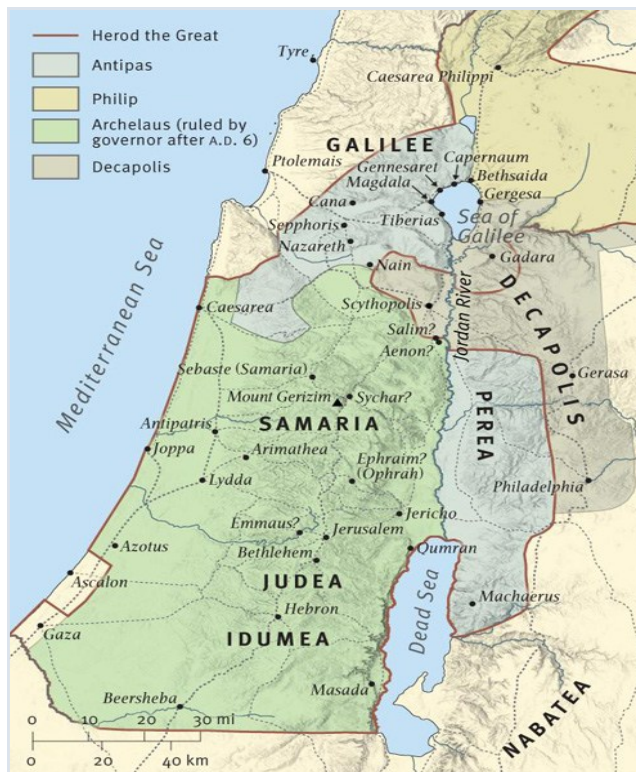
The apostle Peter passed on reports of the words and deeds of Jesus to his attendant, John Mark, who wrote this Gospel for the wider church as the record of Peter's apostolic testimony. The book was likely written from Rome during the mid- to late-50s A.D. (though the mid- or late-60s is also possible). Mark's audience, largely unfamiliar with Jewish customs, needed to become familiar with such customs in order to understand the coming of Jesus as the culmination of God's work with Israel and the entire world, so Mark explains them.

PURPOSE AND THEME

The ultimate purpose and theme of Mark's Gospel is to present and defend Jesus' universal call to discipleship. Mark returns often to this theme, categorizing his main audience as either followers or opponents of Jesus. Mark presents and supports this call to discipleship by narrating the identity and teaching of Jesus. For Mark, discipleship is essentially a relationship with Jesus, not merely following a certain code of conduct. Fellowship with Jesus marks the heart of the disciple's life, and this fellowship includes trusting Jesus, confessing him, observing his conduct, following his teaching, and being shaped by a relationship with him. Discipleship also means being prepared to face the kind of rejection that Jesus faced.

THE SETTING OF MARK

The events in the book of Mark take place almost entirely within Palestine, from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Beersheba in the south. During this time Palestine was ruled by the Roman Empire. The book opens with Jesus' baptism by John during the rule of Pontius Pilate and the tetrarchs Antipas and Philip. It closes with Jesus' death and resurrection about three years later.



Sermon Notes

1. **Verse 27** – He's preparing the disciples to move from hearsay to _____.
2. **Verse 28** – These responses show Jesus was seen as a prophet or divine figure, but not necessarily the _____.
3. **Verse 29** – Peter recognizes Jesus not just as a prophet, but as God's chosen _____.
4. **Verse 30** – Known as the “_____” in Mark. Jesus frequently tells people not to spread His identity to prevent political misunderstandings. Many Jews expected a military Messiah who would overthrow Rome; Jesus came to suffer and die for sin.