



Questions Jesus Asked

A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of August 24, 2025

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

Warm Up

- How has your understanding of who Jesus is developed over the years? Describe some of the ways your knowledge of Him has changed, and what brought about those changes.

Matthew 16:13-20 *Who Do You Say That I Am?*

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

- Why might people think “the Son of Man” was John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah. Or another prophet? (13-14)
- Why is Jesus’ question, “Who do you say that I am?” so pivotal? (15)
- In confessing Jesus to be the Christ, what was Peter saying about Him? (16)
- What would these disciples expect of the Christ, the Son of the Living God?
- How did Peter know that Jesus was the Christ? (17)
- What is Jesus saying in giving Peter his name and saying “on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”? (18)
- What are the keys to the kingdom, and what do they represent? (19)
- How much of this authority is given to Peter, how much to every believer in Jesus, and how much to God’s church?
- Why would Jesus instruct His disciples to be silent and not allow them to preach that He is the Christ?
- What has your Heavenly Father been teaching you about Jesus lately?
- Pray together in light of this week’s passage.

Stories from the Church: Catherine Shallow

Throughout this current sermon series on Questions Jesus Asked, brothers and sisters from our church will share the ways Jesus is faithfully at work in His church through many ministries at WEPC.

Hi, my name is Catherine Shallow. I serve as the Assistant Director of Middle School Ministry here at West End and I am also involved in our ESL ministry.

Last Sunday, Kurt Zebley shared about what Jesus is doing in his life through the ESL ministry. This morning I am going to share with you all a little bit about another ESL ministry that happens on Tuesday nights called "Homework Time," where we host middle and high school students from the neighborhood in our youth lounge as an opportunity to help them with any homework they may have (hence the name), work on English with them, and really at its core—develop relationships with the children of our ESL families.

When Brandon Blevins, who runs homework time asked me to consider joining him, I honestly wasn't convinced that tutoring was my gifting or that I even possessed the exact passion for what this particular ministry aimed to do. But seeing a need, I decided to show up and (to borrow my dad's favorite word) be curious about what God might do.

What I thought would be math and science quickly became discussions about culture, stories about fleeing from danger and conflict, naming of relatives that still were back home or who had passed away, questions about my family, questions about why we, as Christians, had two Bibles (which I quickly realized was being confused with the Old and New Testament) but a great question nonetheless. Soon I began going on coffee dates and taking two students in particular to school in the morning at Freeman high school, visiting their homes, and one night at homework time, our discussions led to a point where Heather and Chang helped me get them a bible in their native languages. When one student received her Bible she said two things to me that I want to share with you all to give glory to what Jesus is doing in their hearts and lives. This young Muslim woman, born in Afghanistan, who has only been here less than two years, said to me about this new bible, "I'm going to read this," and "this is the first book since I left that I have found in my language." Culturally, I don't think I will ever fully understand what it meant for them to even open these bibles. But I do know that the Spirit is at work and doing really remarkable and mysterious things through our homework time meetings on Tuesdays and at West End.

What I thought would be nothing more than a space for tutoring, God was working to be a place of relationship, a safe place to ask questions, a place where students from a predominantly Muslim background would hear and see the gospel lived out.

Sometimes growing up in church and now working at a church, it is easy for me to not realize that I've put what God can do in a box, and admittedly that box is often small. Homework time for me has opened my eyes even a little bit more to the wonder and beauty of Jesus. A lot of that comes from seeing other volunteers serve and love so fiercely and sacrificially. I see it displayed through the generosity of Heather and Lori making our team dinner every Tuesday, in people like Kurt preparing for and teaching ESL classes, for Chang and some of our youth students teaching and playing games with the elementary aged kids, and for Rylee reading bible stories to the nursery aged kids. God has, with intention and love, put our building in a location where, like Kurt said last week, in many ways, he has brought the nations to us. I feel really grateful for having been given the invitation to participate in his work almost two years ago. Reflecting on that first evening, I didn't have much expectation, but almost from the beginning the Lord has continued to remind me what we are told in Ephesians 3:20, that he is indeed "able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us" is most certainly true.

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Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org

