



THE REAL JESUS

John 6:60-69



IF YOU HAD TO DESCRIBE JESUS IN 5 SENTENCES WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ABOUT HIM?

WATCH FR MIKE SCHMITZ' VIDEO: "WHICH JESUS IS THE REAL JESUS?" AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



- What was the issue with the belief the woman at the conference had about Jesus?
- How did the Pastor make his point to her about her beliefs?

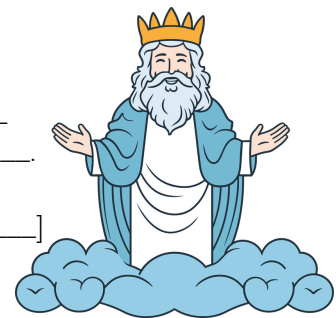


- What is the consequence of this kind of belief system?

I make God in my image and likeness: he loves what I love and he hates what I hate.

I am made in God's image and likeness: I must learn to love what he loves and hate what he hates.

- In the book "Soul Searching" by Christian Smith, the team of sociologists and psychologists who surveyed adolescents across America discovered something interesting. Regardless of what religious faith they had been brought up with, the vast majority of US adolescents professed what the team termed **M** _____ **T** _____ **D** _____.
- What are some of the basic tenets of this faith that Fr Mike lists?
 - God is _____ and He wants us to be _____.
 - God doesn't really have to be _____ unless you need him to _____.
 - Good people _____ when they die. [We're all good people unless you're _____]



The research showed the majority of adolescents had the same version of God regardless of what they professed to believe.

- Fr Mike explains that this is why we have a whole generation of people professing faith in Jesus without knowing _____
- The producers of "Bible in a Year" podcast wanted to counteract this by bringing the biblical worldview back into knowing who Jesus is. Some listeners had their faith strengthened by this. Why did some people struggle with the podcast?
- What two choices were people faced with as a response to this Jesus revealed in Scripture?

① _____

② _____

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- What do the “Nones” of the current generation describe themselves as not having?

- Fr Mike argues that these “nones” only differ from their parents’ and grandparents’ generation’s faith in one way: what is that?

- What does Fr Mike suggest is the next step for Christianity in response to this?



- RECLAIM _____
- RETELL _____
- “PRESS PLAY” and _____



READ: JOHN 6:60-69



It's never nice when people make assumptions about us; it's annoying when people presume to know how we would speak and react, especially when they haven't taken the trouble to get to know us. How often do we do that to others though? How often do we even do that to Jesus? Who is Jesus? Who do I say that He is? More importantly, who has He revealed Himself to be? If we reduce Jesus to “a nice guy” or “a good teacher” we miss the point. Jesus didn't come to reveal himself as “nice”. He said and did a lot of challenging things - don't forget He called the pharisees white-washed tombs and drove the market sellers out of the temple for disrespecting God's house! He did teach, a lot in fact, but how aware are we of His actual teachings - or do we choose a more convenient “Jesus-light” version based on what we like and dislike, that keeps us cosily in our comfort zone and conveniently agrees with all our lifestyle choices?

Like in today's Gospel, we ultimately have to make a choice too: who do we believe Jesus is, and how will we have to live our lives according to that belief? The good news? He's worth every effort and sacrifice - anything we lose because of the demands of truly being a Christian are far outweighed by His generosity and blessings - and the promise of eternal life more importantly!



MISSION!

WHAT ABOUT YOU? DO YOU THINK YOUR FAITH COULD BE DESCRIBED AS MORALISTIC THERAPEUTIC DEISM? TAKE SOME TIME THROUGHOUT THIS WEEK, A FEW MINUTES EVERY DAY TO REFLECT ON THE PERSON OF JESUS. WHO HAS HE REVEALED HIMSELF TO BE? WHO DO YOU SAY THAT HE IS? ASK JESUS EACH DAY TO REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU AND BE OPEN TO WHO YOU MEET! PRESS PLAY AND LISTEN!

CHECK OUT "The Bible in a Year" Podcast with Fr Mike Schmitz
Ascension Press



For more on Moralistic Therapeutic Deism (or being spiritual but not religious) check out [Dr Andrew Swafford's article](#) on Ascension Press)



PRAYER TIME!

“Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life.”
“Ok God, this is who you have revealed yourself to be. I believe. I profess faith in you and I'm going to let you love me as you are and you're going to love me as I am. Amen.”

CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON WHO JESUS TRULY IS

- Chris Tomlin: Jesus
- Mark Schultz: I Am
- Hillsong: King of Kings
- Paul Baloche: Behold Him
- Matt Redman: Son of Suffering
- The Vigil Project - Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All
- Aaron Shust: My Savior My God
- Phil Wickham: Living Hope



The Bible in 10 Minutes (feat. Fr. Mike Schmitz) [Ascension Presents]



The Person of Jesus

Bring together what has been said about Jesus in the Gospels by writing relevant words / drawing images in the space below. You may decide to choose one Gospel or a mixture of the four.

What people in the Gospel reveal about Jesus through their words and actions

What Jesus reveals about Himself through His words and actions



Your own impression of Jesus from the Gospels