



Date: _____

Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Isn't Santa Claus Series, Lesson 28

Lesson Title: Meet Jesus – He's Real

Take Home Point: Meet Jesus – He's Real.

Warm-Up:

A friend of mine who is a missionary to India told this story. He was talking with a Brahmin priest who said, "I don't think there is any difference between what I believe about my monkey god and what you believe about your God. I believe my god made the world, he hears me when I pray, he accepts my sacrifices, he is with me. Why should I reject the monkey god of my ancestors to believe in yours? My missionary friend replied, "Since you believe our gods are the same, do something with me. I will pray a sentence to my God, then you repeat exactly the same to yours." The Brahmin agreed. "Oh, God," my friend began, "I thank you for the wonderful world you made." The Brahmin repeated these words to his god. My friend continued, "I thank you for hearing my prayers." Again the Brahmin repeated exactly. Then my friend said, "I thank you for creating me in your image." The Brahmin stopped, for it could not be true for him.

Read: John 1:1-5, 9-14,18; Revelations 22:13-14

Observation (What happened?):

According to John 1:5, what is the state of the world and our lives without Jesus?

How does a person become a child of God?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What does it mean that the Word was in the beginning and the Word was with God and the Word was God?

In Revelation 22:14, what does it mean to "wash their robes?"

Insight:

John calls Jesus the light of the world. Did you know Jesus used many other titles to describe himself? Most of the references Jesus made to himself are captured in John's gospel, where Jesus called himself the bread of life (6:35); the gate for his sheep (10:7); the good shepherd (10:11); God's Son (10:36); the resurrection and the life (11:25); the way, the truth, and the life (14:6); the true vine (15:5); and the king (18:37). In the book of Revelation, Jesus called himself the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End (22:12); and the Root and Offspring of David and the Bright Morning Star (22:16). But particularly important was his pronouncement in John 8:58 of "I AM." That name is the personal name God declared to Moses in Exodus 3:15. So when Jesus said, "I AM," he declared himself to be God. No wonder he is the light of the world! And we can be so glad he shines in our darkness!

Application (What does it mean to me?):

How do you know Jesus is real? How do you explain it to others?

Pray for your small group to know the real Jesus of the Bible, not the one our culture creates.