

Here's a short discussion starter on the person of Jesus Christ. Divide the group into small groups that will each discuss one of the Scripture references given below. Then have each group match the scriptural "image of Christ" to their selection. Ask one person from each group to explain the image her group discovered in their reading.

Scripture:

1. Philippians 2:5-11
2. Matthew 25:34-40
3. Isaiah 42:1-9
4. John 10:11-16
5. John 6:44-51
6. Luke 4:38-41
7. Matthew 16:13-20

Jesus' Report Card

Rate the following statements on a scale of one to five according to whether or not you agree with them. Five means strongly agree, three is neutral, and one is strongly disagree.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Jesus Christ lived about 2000 years ago, and what he did and said has no meaning for me today. | <input type="checkbox"/> e. The Gospels are more meaningful when they given a modern translation. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. When Jesus lived, he was a great teacher, but the things he taught are not relevant today. | <input type="checkbox"/> f. Jesus asked too much of his followers. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Most people do not read the Gospels because they are afraid that their interpretations might differ from that of their church or be incorrect. | <input type="checkbox"/> g. Jesus had a normal relationship with his family. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. If the gospel or Jesus were on TV as a regular series, most people would watch it. | <input type="checkbox"/> h. Jesus performed miracles to prove how great he was. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> i. Jesus had to be baptized. |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> j. Jesus probably didn't do many of the things the Gospels say that he did. The Gospels are just the writers' stories and imaginations. |
- Is there anything you think Jesus should have done to make his message more acceptable to people?
- Is there anything in the Gospel that you cannot accept? What?