

This midweek study will explore the biblical teaching of Christ as Prophet. Use the following main points, Scriptures, teaching/discussion ideas, and questions to help students gain a better understanding of the essential doctrine for this session.

Essential Doctrine: Christ as Prophet

As one of His offices, Jesus fulfills the role of prophet: He alone is the ultimate teacher and has the words of eternal life (John 6:68). Jesus is also God's ultimate revelation of Himself.

1 Christ is the ultimate preacher

(Matt. 4:17; 5:38-40).

Invite students to consider the differences between teaching and preaching. Point out that teaching others something you're passionate about looks different from proclaiming why it's wonderful.

Read Matthew 4:17.

- ▶ *How does this verse reveal Jesus as an ultimate preacher?*
- ▶ *Why do you think people were drawn to His message?*

In this passage, Jesus was a great preacher because He was extremely clear about what He proclaimed. As Christians, we also need to be extremely clear about the message we proclaim to the world around us.

- ▶ *How can you be more clear about the gospel to your friends?*

Read Matthew 5:38-40.

As He preached, Jesus often used good sayings that were common in His day. Jesus used those sayings because people were familiar with them. However, He also revealed His authority by saying things like, "But I tell you" (v. 39). This phrase showed that His power in teaching rests in His authority as the Son of God.

- ▶ *How does the phrase "But I tell you" give Jesus' preaching more power?*
- ▶ *How does the fact that Jesus' words are authoritative make a difference when you read something in your Bible that challenges your way of thinking?*

2 Christ is the ultimate teacher

(Mark 1:22; John 6:63).

Option: Jot down different "off-the-wall" topics on slips of paper (nuclear physics, the origin of pizza, governmental organizational structure, etc.). Ask a few students to pull out a topic and attempt to teach a 3-minute lesson on the topic, putting their "off-the-cuff" teaching skills to use.

- ▶ *What is required to be an ultimate teacher?*

Read Mark 1:22 and John 6:63.

- ▶ *How does the Scripture say people reacted to Jesus' teaching? Why do you think they reacted this way?*
- ▶ *How did Jesus' words communicate more than information?*
Jesus' teaching wasn't just conveying information, it brought life to His listeners.
- ▶ *How does Jesus' being an ultimate teacher change the way you read His words in the gospels?*

3 Christ is the ultimate revelation of God

(John 10:30; 14:6).

Read John 10:30.

Jesus wasn't a representation of God in the sense of plastic fruit resembling the real thing. No, He represented the Triune God because He is the second person of the Trinity, fully divine. If you know Jesus, you know God the Father.

- ▶ *How does Jesus being one with the Father affect your concept of God?*

Read John 14:6.

- ▶ *Why is it important for us to understand Jesus isn't just the path to God, but God Himself?*

WRAP IT UP

- ▶ *How does Jesus as prophet give you more confidence when you read your Bible?*
- ▶ *How would you answer someone if asked what it means for Jesus to be a prophet?*
- ▶ *Challenge students to record a situation they are currently facing where they need to fully trust Jesus as prophet and teacher in their lives.*