

GOD IN A BOD

1. List **five words** that describe Jesus Christ.

2. Think about this—if Jesus lived in your town and attended your school, how would you answer these questions?

- What group of people would he hang out with?
- What kind of clothes would he wear?
- What classes would he take?
- Where would he go to church?
- What music would he listen to?
- What would he do after school?
- What TV shows would he watch?
- Where would he be on a Friday night?
- Would your friends like him?
- What would he be concerned about?



3. If someone asked you why you are a Christian, what would you say?

4. Christ once asked his disciples what others were saying about him (Matthew 16:13). Find out what these verses say about Christ, and complete the sentences.

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| Matthew 16:16 | Jesus is— |
| John 1:1,14 | Jesus is— |
| John 3:16-17 | Jesus is— |
| John 10:30 | Jesus is— |
| Colossians 1:13-23 | Jesus is— |
| Hebrews 4:14-15 | Jesus is— |

GOD IN A BOD | J e s u s C h r i s t |

THIS WEEK

Who is Jesus Christ? Teenagers need to decide for themselves who Christ is and what they will do with this knowledge. This TalkSheet is designed to focus on Christ and to help them learn more about his character, his attributes, and how they can come to know him personally.

OPEN

On a large sheet of white paper or a whiteboard make a list of words that describe Jesus—his physical looks, his spiritual nature, his personality traits, and stuff like that. Where do they get these ideas? From the Bible? From pictures or models of Christ in church or in stores? What does society say about Jesus? How do they describe him? What do your kids hear about Jesus at school?

How well does your group know the life of Christ? Give the group a list of events in the life of Christ, such as his baptism, the Sermon on the Mount, different miracles, parables. Divide the group teams to compete and arrange the events chronologically. Then, go over the events and explain any story that the kids may not know about or have questions about.

THE DISCUSSION, BY NUMBERS

1. Make a master list of the words the group chose, and let them explain their choices. Which one was most common? Why?
2. What kind of person would Jesus be if he were living today in your town? Put aside the "Jesus in the carpenter shop" image and portray him as a modern-day teenager. This may be challenging—remind them that there's no right or wrong answer. What ideas from Bible verses support their answers, if any?
3. This is a heavy question for some kids, especially those who are new Christians. Don't expect them to open up easily. This may be a good time to share your thoughts about what Jesus means to you. You may want to follow up with a question like, "How does believing in Jesus make a difference in your life?"
4. Check out these verses with the group and then make a summary list of his characteristics.

THE CLOSE

Christ works in each person differently. You may want to share what he has done for you. How has a relationship with him changed your life? John 9:25 says, "One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" Explain that your kids can let Christ change their lives—are they willing? Will they let Christ live in them and work in their hearts? The only way to understand Jesus is know him better.

Point out that Jesus is their friend—not an authoritative heavenly being. He is someone who will stay close to them. He understands their situations, needs, desires, temptations, and struggles because he lived on earth as a human. Invite your group to start a personal relationship with Jesus if they haven't already. What will they lose? Nothing. They'll gain the best friend they've ever had.

MORE

- This lesson can't cover everything about Christ. You may want to start a Bible study or small group on the life of Christ. Several materials are available, including *Creative Bible Lessons on the Life of Christ* from Youth Specialties (www.YouthSpecialties.com).
- How is Christ portrayed by the media—on the Internet, in movies, on TV, and so on? Ask your group to do some outside research to find some examples. They'll most likely be able to find both good and bad ones. Discuss the examples they found and how society depicts Christ. Are these accurate examples of Jesus? What do these examples say about Christianity and religion?
- You may want to use this lesson to explain the difference between God and Jesus. Some of your kids may wonder how Jesus can be God if he's God's son. This is tough to explain in simple terms! Be careful not to get too theological, but take the time to explain the Trinity and the relationship between God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Take a look at the TalkSheet *Got Spirit?* (page 27) for more discussion questions, explanations, and activities.