

4. Why is it important to read and understand the Gospels to get a clearer picture of Jesus?
 - Pastor Craig encouraged listeners to read the Gospels, as they contain not just Bible stories but documentation of Jesus's explanation of what God is like.
 - Which Gospel has been the most influential for your understanding of Jesus and his teachings, and why?

5. What are some examples of how Jesus demonstrated and illustrated God's nature during his time on Earth?
 - By living among us, Jesus aimed to show us what God is like through his actions and teachings.
 - How can you apply these lessons in your daily life to better reflect the love and compassion of Jesus and God?

Prayer Prompts:

Ask God to help us understand the purpose of Jesus coming to Earth and living among us as highlighted in the sermon. Pray that we can comprehend that Jesus is God's Son and our King, and that he came to illustrate and demonstrate what God is like.

Pray for wisdom and insight to navigate and understand the different expressions of Christianity, recognizing that not all traditions or interpretations are essential to our faith.

Request God's guidance as we read the Gospels and seek to align our view of God the Father with our view of Jesus the Son. Pray for the courage to unlearn and reconstruct our beliefs about God where necessary.

Finally, pray for healing for those who have been hurt by the church and theology, as Pastor Craig mentioned in his sermon. Ask for a better understanding of God's closeness through Jesus.



If you are a first time guest, or have not connected with South Reno in the past, we would love to connect with you! You can use your phone and text "Welcome" to 775.204.1881 or scan the QR code.

SCAN ME



Week 2

Big Idea: Jesus came to illustrate and demonstrate what God is like.

Primary Text:

Matthew 16:16 (NLT)

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

John 14:1 (NLT)

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.

John 14:7-10 (NLT)

⁷ If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!" ⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me.

Colossians 2:17 (NLT)

For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality.

Hebrews 10:1 (NLT)

The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship.

NOTES:

For Further Study

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to help you take that next step.

Ice Breaker:

What is one of the first things you were taught about God? Is it something that continues to inform your faith?

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is Jesus described as both God's Son and our King according to Matthew 16:16?
 - Pastor Craig emphasized that Jesus is both God's Son and our King as an essential belief for Christians.
 - How does understanding Jesus in these roles affect your relationship with Him and your faith journey?
2. How does the traditional presentation and teaching of the Bible contribute to confusion about the nature of Jesus and God?
 - Pastor Craig mentioned that the way the Bible is usually presented and taught equalizes everything within it, leading to confusion about Jesus's purpose and the connection between Jesus and God.
 - How might you approach reading the Bible differently to gain a clearer understanding of Jesus and his teachings?
3. In John 14:7-10, why does Jesus emphasize that anyone who has seen him has seen the Father?
 - The sermon explained that Jesus came to illustrate and demonstrate what God is like, and that Jesus is the best explanation of God's true nature.
 - In what ways might the way you perceive Jesus inform your understanding of God's nature and divine characteristics?