

Continuing our summer series, "Who Do They Say He Is?" we'll study **The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, or the Jehovah's Witnesses, this week. Pastor Loewer outlined the basic teachings of the Jehovah's Witnesses (see sermon outline), which describe what this group says about Jesus.**

1. Reflect back on your conversations with people this week; in listening, who would you say they understand Jesus to be? If you were to bring up Jesus in a conversation, asking folks to describe him, how do you think your contemporaries would respond?
2. John's gospel includes many statements Jesus made about Himself. Reviewing those listed below, what did Jesus say about who He is?
 - **Read John 8:12-59.** In this passage, Jesus uses one of His frequent (in John) "I am" statements. He was speaking to Jews, who would have heard the words "I am" in the context of **Exodus 3:6**.
 - Why is that significant?
 - What would it signal to a Jewish audience?

Jesus also talks about Himself and the Father as witnesses to his identity. Jewish law required at least 2 witnesses in a trial, not unlike our legal system.

- How does more than one witness affect the believability of a claim?
- **Read John 10:22-42.** Here, Jesus becomes more direct with a group of Jews.
 - What does this section say about who Jesus is?

He mentions the miracles, which we've just finished studying.

- From what you learned in that series, what do the miracles tell you about Jesus' identity?

3. Read and reflect on the following verses for more of Jesus' statements about Himself. What would these statements mean? Who is He saying He is?

- **John 6:32-40**
- **John 9:1-7**
- **John 10:7-18**
- **John 14:1-6**
- **John 15:1-11**

4. If, as the Jehovah's Witnesses contend, Jesus was created and not divine, what would Jesus' statements in John mean?
5. Read and meditate on these passages reflecting others' descriptions of who Jesus is.
 - **John 1:1-18** by John, believed to be the beloved disciple. Reviewing these passages, what do they say about Jesus?
 - **Colossians 1:15-20**, from Paul's letter to this group.
 - **Hebrews 1-2**, from a letter of uncertain authorship.
 - **Revelation 1:8-18 and 22:12-21**, by John.
6. Reflecting on the sermon and the passages you've studied,
 - How do we know who Jesus is?
 - How do we know what's the truth about Jesus?

7. Who do you say Jesus is? Be prepared to share your perspective and understanding with your Ignition Group.

Spend time this week in prayer for discernment about who Jesus is to you, and how you might be called to share that with someone else.