

CONNECTIONS

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jesus

Who is Jesus?

If someone were to ask you, "Who is Jesus?" how would you respond? Now, I realize that though this question may *sound* simple, when taken at face value, it's anything but simple. Still, I wonder what some of your responses might be to this question.

One local church in North Texas decided to do an experiment at a large shopping mall in Frisco. They asked a sample of adults in their twenties and thirties this same question, "Who is Jesus?." Now realize, these were well-educated, intelligent people who were living in the heart of what's known as the Bible belt, where even churches live up to the motto, "*Everything's bigger in Texas.*" Here are just a few of the responses they got:

Man 1: "That's a trick question. (Laughs) I don't know how to answer that."

Woman 1: "I mean, I believe that he was a real person and that he died on the cross, but I don't believe that he was God's Son."

Man 2. "He was, you know...He was just another person that found religion and all that, so it's...I mean... He's nothing like...He's, of course, a good person and all that, and he's a really big part of religion, so... You know...All people that find religion are, you know, important. So people have different views."^{*}

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Want to learn more about Binnerri English Ministry?
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Again, how would we have responded if someone came up and asked, "Who is Jesus?" at our local shopping mall? Would our answers have been any different?

Jesus asked this same question to His disciples in Mark 8:29 - "Who do you (my disciples) say I am?" And Peter, who was often the first one to act, answered, "You are the Christ." In other words, "You are the Anointed One, the long awaited Messiah, the Lord of lords, and the King to end all kings. Jesus, you are the Son of the living God." You see, the disciples were the ones who had followed Jesus from the very beginning of His earthly ministry. They were the ones who had received privileged insight into His teachings. They were the ones who saw and participated in all of the incredible miracles of Jesus. And they were the ones who had developed a personal relationship with Jesus during their travels. These disciples knew Jesus better than anyone else because they had spent the most time with Him, so it was right for Jesus to ask them this simple yet profound question.

And I believe that this question is so relevant for us today as well. I also believe that the only way we can come to a clear understanding of Jesus is by spending time in cultivating that personal, intimate relationship just like the disciples. So I want to encourage you to sincerely ask yourself this question, "Who is Jesus?" And more importantly, I want to challenge you to not only ask, but to carefully determine your own answer to this question. And I truly believe that as we make the time and spend the energy in seeking after Him, especially during this Easter season, that He will make Himself known to us in amazing ways.

- Pastor Andrew Yi

* Taken from the book, *Jesus: The Greatest Life of All* by Charles R. Swindoll

PASTOR PROFILE



Greeting ~eh! My name is Paul Kim and I'm serving as the new Youth Pastor here at Binnerri Church. By my greeting some of you might have guessed that I am from Canada...the brain of North America. Just kidding. I was born in Taegu, South Korea, left in first grade and lived in Israel for two years. I went back for one semester in Korea for third grade then moved to Toronto, Canada, where I completed my education. My seminary years were spent at McMaster Divinity School.

Upon graduation, I was given an opportunity by my church in Toronto (Toronto Youngnak) to do an internship in Korea, where I went and planted a church for foreign workers. There I met my beautiful, musical, and smart wife (yes, I married out of my league but don't all pastors?). I served for two years at Dongan Presbyterian Church in Korea and went back to Toronto

Youngnak. I then received a call to be an EM pastor in Atlanta in 2004 where I served for five years. Most recently, I came from Greensboro, NC to serve here at Binnerri since January 1 of this year.

I love Texas, especially the big D! Love the food, the Texas portions, the service roads, and the unpredictable weather. One thing I would love to see is mountains. I love to hike but haven't had a chance since leaving North Carolina.

I have four beautiful children who all have my wife's looks, thank you, Jesus! My son, Jin, is seven, and my princesses are Karis (4), Adeline and Ileen (11 month-old twins).

I hope to get to know you all and pray for God's favor on your lives.

TESTIMONIES

As we celebrate this Easter season, we wanted to use this opportunity to share how specific individuals in our congregation have been transformed by the Gospel.



Going to church has always been part of my life. I grew up in church and both of my parents served in whatever capacity they could. My dad insisted on going half an hour early every Sunday and I remember arguing with him about losing that extra half hour of sleep Sunday mornings. As I grew older and left for college, I didn't go to church as regularly, and I can honestly say that I got away from God for about eight years. However, in October 2008, I made the decision to come back to church. For those of you who don't know, I was adopted and grew up in south Texas (McAllen, to be exact), where there weren't many Asians, much less Koreans. So, in a dual effort to connect with my heritage and to return to church, I began attending the Binnerri EM and I can say that it changed my life. I met and

married my beautiful wife, Hanna, in this church. I have made friendships that I believe will last a lifetime in this church. But most importantly, I've reconnected with God in this church. My dad passed away last July and while it's been rough on my family and me, I feel truly blessed to have the love and support of this church. - **Leigh Parker**

Growing up in a Christian home, I was exposed to Christianity at a young age. We went to church every Sunday. For most families going to church consisted of a few hours, but in my family it was an all-day affair. We went early in the mornings because my parents were involved in choir and stayed until night service. Holidays in my family consisted of a time of praise as well as long prayers. Growing up in this environment, I knew all the Bible stories, but never understood salvation and Jesus dying on the cross for my sins.

The summer before 7th grade, when I attended a retreat, I was scared into being saved. The speaker spoke about hell and the repercussions of not accepting Jesus as my Savior. I went through most of my high school life very naïve and did not get involved in anything at school because church was my life.

It was not until later on that I realized the importance of grace and my personal relationship with Christ. I realized that we are all sinners and we are truly saved by His grace. I am reminded of two verses that continue to come to me when times are difficult and I struggle. They are Proverbs 3:5-6 (*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight*) and Psalms 23:4 (*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me*). Being saved doesn't mean life is always easy, but I know it is better because when I face struggles and trials I can trust in the Lord. - **Cindy Ko**



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Women's Prayer Meeting | Saturday, April 16th at 7:00 am, RM102
- Church Bazaar | Saturday, April 16th at 8:00 am
- Holy Week Morning Prayer | Monday-Friday (April 18-22) at 6:00 am, EM Sanctuary
- Good Friday Service | Friday, April 22 at 8:00 pm, EM Sanctuary
- Daybreak '11 Easter Sunrise Service | Sunday, April 24 at 6:00 am, Bethany Presbyterian Church
- Easter Sunday Services | Sunday, April 24th at 9:45am and 11:30am, EM Sanctuary

CELEBRATIONS: NEW BABIES

Babies are always a welcome addition to our congregation. Congratulations to Jeremy/Theresa Chio and Dan/Christa Lee for the new blessing in their lives. As a way of introducing the babies, we've asked them to share a funny episode they've experienced. Enjoy!



Kara Chio

A funny episode about Kara is when she was crying for milk and said, "Umma, mam ma (translation: "umma" = mom, "mam ma" = food in Korean). And whenever she's hungry, she will cry out, "umma." She was only one-and-a-half-months old. No one would believe that but my dad heard it with me and we couldn't believe she said that. She has been a such a blessing from God.

Braden Lee

We were at a very fancy dinner meeting my brother's fiancée's family for the first time. Brady happened to be seated at the head of the table. Instead of eating, he decided to lay his head down and just sleep in the middle of the meal. His head looked like a dish being served for dinner.



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Perhaps one of the most painful realizations of a Christian is that apart from Jesus, there is nothing really pleasing about us to God. Growing up in church, I quickly learned how a Christian should look and act like, and it was easy for me to make myself appear as all the others did. It was during my youth group years that I accepted Christ, but it wasn't until much later that I started learning what it meant to make Him Lord of my life.

For a long time, I claimed to believe there was no other way to salvation but through faith, yet in my heart, I actually began taking much of the credit that was due Christ. I was missing the whole point of God's grace and attributed my salvation to my good works, but His loving kindness didn't leave me the way I was. After I got to college, He opened my eyes to see the sinfulness of my heart and the fact that there is nothing I could ever do to earn what was done on the cross. I had always known this in my head, but it finally made sense in my heart and He began teaching me what it looked like to truly follow Jesus.

God has His perfect timing for every person, and for me, it took over twenty years for the truth of Christ to really pierce my heart and even still, I have such a long way to go. Every time I feel that I have reached some level with God, He reminds me that there is so much more. I don't know when my time will be to join the Lord, but I hope that when I face Him on that day, I will come before Him knowing that my life on earth wasn't wasted. - **Ruth Park**

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