**The Son of God**

One great purpose of the gospels is to impress on us the truth that Jesus is the Son of God.

**What does it mean for Jesus to be the Son of God?**

**1. In relation to Israel**

A. He is their *Messiah*

B. He is greater than their *rulers*

(Psalm 82 describes unfaithful rulers as “gods.”)

**2. In relation to the Father**

A. He does *the works* of the Father

B. He is *one with* the Father

C. He is *different* from the Father

**3. In relation to you**

By union with the Son of God through faith—

A. You become a *favored child* of the Father

John 1:12

B. Jesus enables you to *know* the Father

Matthew 11:27; John 14:9-10

C. Jesus enables you to *love and obey*
the Father (1 John 4:7-21)

D. Jesus will *lift you up to glory*
with the Father (John 17:22-24; 1 John 3:1-3)

**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. How did the Lord speak to you through the message? Did He put His finger on any habits or attitudes that you need to change? Did He encourage you regarding some difficulty, move you to undertake some new challenge, or open your heart to some truth you hadn’t seen before?

2. Jesus identified as the Son of God in the gospels

* By the angel Gabriel (Luke 1:35)
* By the Father (Luke 3:22)
* By the devil (Luke 4:3)
* By demons (Luke 4:41)
* By John the Baptist (John 1:34)
* By Nathanael with Jesus’ implicit acceptance (John 1:49)
* By Peter, with Jesus clear acknowledgment of his confession (Matthew 16:16-17)
* By Jesus (John 5:25-27—Jesus commonly referred to Himself as the Son of Man; here He identifies the Son of God with the Son of Man)

John 10:36
John 11:4 (with the clear implication that He is speaking of Himself)

* By Martha (John 11:27, with Jesus’ approval)
* By the high priest’s question (Mark 14:61-62, which Jesus answered in the affirmative)
* By the centurion (Mark 15:39)
* By the opening of the first gospel to be written and by the punch line of the last gospel (Mark 1:1; John 20:30-31)

3. How do you think God is looking at you? Does He have a smile? Is He glaring at you in anger? Does He have a tear? Is He pounding you down or lifting you up? How does your relation to the Son of God determine the Father’s attitude toward you? How does your sin or obedience affect His face toward you? Is repentance a dreadful duty or a happy return to your Father?