

**Oxford Baptist Church - Sept 23, 2018 - Pastor Robin W. Pifer**  
**2018 Fall Series – Christianity Explored**  
**Message 2 – Identity – Who is Jesus?**  
**Scripture: Mark 4:35-41; Psalm 107**  
**Weekly Reading Mark 3:7-5:43**

“Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

Because Jesus Christ shows us his true identity, we can understand our true identity in him.

It is important to get the identity of Jesus right – otherwise, we’ll relate to him in the wrong way.

**The Gospel of Mark shows the true identity of Jesus by showing:**

1. The Power and Authority of Jesus’ teaching. (Mark 1:21-22)
2. The Power and Authority of Jesus to heal sickness. (Mark 1:29-31, 32-34, 2:1-12; 3:1-6) - James 5:13-16
3. The Power and Authority of Jesus to cast out demons. (Mark 1:32, 34) John 6:34-36
  - Jesus sets the captives free; the Oppressed and the Possessed. Luke 4:18-19
  - Luke 4:41; Matt 12:28
4. The Power and Authority of Jesus over nature. (Mark 4:35-41; Psalm 107:23-31)
  - You and I are going to have storms in our life.
  - No hope of surviving the storm.
  - The remarkable way Jesus calms the storm.
5. The Power and Authority of Jesus over death. (Mark 5:21-24; 35-43)
6. The Power and Authority of Jesus to forgive sin. (Mark 2:1-12)

“But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” The Son of Man title comes from the Old Testament book of Daniel, where the Son of Man

came from heaven and was given eternal rule over the whole world. Jesus claims this title.

**As God’s Son and God’s Only Chosen King, Jesus possesses the authority and power of God.**

**Life Group Questions and Study**

- **Weekly Reading Mark 3:7-5:43**
- Why do so many people struggle with or are confused about their personal identity in our society?
- Discuss the issue of true identity and false identity. Why do so many people want to be someone else rather than their true self that God created them to be?
- Why is it so important to understand the true identity of Jesus Christ?
- What is so remarkable about the way Jesus calms the storm in Mark 4:35-41?
- Discuss the statement: “Jesus can calm the storm and give us strength to go through the storm.” Why is the statement “God only gives us what we can handle” a lie?
- Mark records Jesus doing four specific miracles: Calming a Storm (Mark 4:35-41); Healing a demon-possessed man (Mark 5:1-20); Healing a Sick Woman (Mark 5:25-34); Raising a dead girl to life (Mark 5:35-43) What does Jesus show authority over in these events?
- Looking at all four events above what are the different ways in which people respond to Jesus?
- Do you see yourself in any of these responses?
- What is your greatest take away from this message?