

I Believe in God, the Son

What do we mean when we say “I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord”? It’s one simple sentence, but it’s loaded with meaning. Study this statement of belief with *Groundwork* to examine the meaning of the name of Jesus Christ, his relationship with God, and how his title as Lord contributes to our understanding of who he is and what he’s done for us. Dig into the foundational scriptures that undergird this statement and discover what it all means for how we live our lives.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we’ll cover in the episode.

- What do names and titles convey to us about people?
- What does it mean to be anointed?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [I Believe in God, the Son](#)

READ [Matthew 16:13-16](#), [John 1:1-18](#), [Philippians 2:9-11](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Have you ever thought about the fact that when you say the name “Jesus Christ” you’re actually declaring that Jesus is the Savior? Why is his salvation good news for you today?
- Read [1 Samuel 16:1-13](#), [Exodus 29:1-9](#), and [Luke 4:14-2](#). Based on these passages, how would you explain what it means to be anointed by God? What was Jesus anointed to do?
- In his book *The Good News We Almost Forgot*, Kevin De Young explains Jesus Christ’s identity as God’s Son like this: “Rather, the Father shares His essence with the Son and the life He has in Himself ([John 5:26](#)). So for us, being called children of God means we have been given new life and graciously welcomed into the family of our heavenly Father. But for Jesus to be called God’s only Son means that He shares equally in divinity, glory, and honor with the Father” (p. 72). How does this explanation fit with host Scott Hoezee’s illustration of the Trinity as a circle from segment 2?
- In segment 3, host Dave Bast shared this quote from N.T. Wright, “The confession, Jesus is Lord, was never a religious claim. It is a political claim, and it is a claim over every other part of life.” Reflect on the quote. What does it mean and why does it matter?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Matthew 1:20-25](#), [Hebrews 7:24-25](#), [Acts 4:11-12](#), [Luke 3:21-22](#), [Hebrews 1:1-9](#), [Colossians 1:13-14](#)

CONCLUSION

Reflect on Scott's words, "If you are going to go into his [Jesus'] kingdom, he is the one who is in charge of how you make decisions, how you spend money, how you raise children, and relate to friends and your spouse, and so forth and so on...There is not a single square inch of the creation of which Jesus cannot say: Mine. Right? That is mine. So, when we serve Jesus as Lord, that means our lives are his." Does Jesus have command over your *whole* life or is there an area you try to compartmentalize, separate from your faith life? Discuss your reflections with God in prayer; confess what you need to confess, ask him to reveal any blind spots, and give him praise and glory as you declare the words of the Apostles' Creed "I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord."

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