

That's a Good Question!

Scripture Reading — Luke 9:18-27

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Luke 9:20

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With Jesus there was often no such thing as a simple question. When he asked what the crowds had been saying about him, his disciples faced another, more probing question. Jesus asked them, "But what about you? ... Who do you say I am?" This question demands more than an objective report of what others are saying. It calls for personal commitment.

Peter bravely spoke out about his growing allegiance, saying that Jesus was "the Christ of God." In that confession Peter said, "Jesus, you are the One God anointed for his purposes."

What purposes? Most people had no idea, so Jesus didn't want his disciples broadcasting what Peter had just said. Rather than a King who was anointed to suffer and die for sinners, most Jews were looking for a king who would inflict suffering on their oppressors!

Jesus then made clear what it would cost to live out Peter's confession in a world that not only was confused about who Jesus was but also opposed his ministry. Joining in Peter's confession would bring believers into conflict with the world and lead them to deny themselves as they picked up a cross of discipleship.

What price have you paid to be faithful to God's anointed? Remember Christ's promise: "Whoever loses his life for me will save it."

Prayer

<p>Loosen our grip on the assurances, comforts, and toys of this world, Lord. Teach us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow you. We pray this in your name. Amen.</p>

Devotion topics: [Christianity](#), [Discipleship](#)

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