

"Solus Christus"

Acts 4:12, John 15:5

Overview



Various people take on different roles in our lives. We can know others as our child, sibling, parent, distant relative, friend, spouse, student, teacher, boss, employee, teammate...the list goes on and on.

Other people can also provide us with different things.... comfort, encouragement, counsel, expertise, love, hurt, partnership, correction, frustration, anxiety, friendship... (you get the idea).

We may find each of these roles and provisions in more than one person (for example we may have more than one friend or source of comfort). But some things (and roles) in life can only be found in one Person – Jesus Christ.

Getting Started *The Exceptional One*



1. Who is your favorite fictional hero (Batman, Jane Eyre, Sherlock Holmes, Anne of Green Gables), etc.)? Why is that hero your favorite?
 2. Did you have a best friend growing up? Who was it and how did you become best friends?
 3. Aside from your immediate family, which of your relatives would you most like to spend time with? Why?
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The Text



¹¹ Jesus is “ ‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’ ^k
¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:11-12 (NIV)

²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:26-27 (NIV)

²⁵ Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, ²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith—²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Romans 16:25-27 (NIV)

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:1-5 (NIV)

The Video (optional) “Solus Christus” – Acts 4:12, John 15:5 - by Kyle Corbin, Nov. 8/20
(view at www.immanuelonline.ca)



NOTES: _____

Understanding



1. What does Jesus (and only Jesus) provide for us according to Acts 4:12? What does Peter point to as proof of his assertion (see vs. 9-10 and 3:1-10)?
2. What image does Peter use to describe Jesus and the unique place He has in our life (Acts 4:11, Psalm 118:19-24)? Why is this image appropriate? What is Peter afraid the people are in danger of doing?
3. What, according to Luke 24:26-27, is the key to understanding Scripture? How does our appreciation of this key help us in our understanding of God’s Word (in reading, for example, Isaiah 53 or Psalm 22)?
4. Review Romans 16:25-27 and list the ways in which Jesus’ life, teachings, and actions uniquely instruct and proclaim God’s glory? How about God’s wisdom? (Consider also Romans 11:33-36, Gal. 1:4-5, Eph. 3:20-21, Jude 24-25.)
5. What is God’s intention for our lives according to John 15:1-5 (especially verse 2)? What must be true of us if we are to fulfill this intention? Why is that so? What is the alternative to living in this way (vs. 5)?
6. Jesus instructs us to abide in Him (John 15:6). What does this look like? How do we accomplish this? Check out Phil. 4:13, Col. 1:23, Hebrews 2:1; 3:14.

Applying



1. What would you say Jesus has accomplished in your life that would give evidence of His saving work in you? How might you give Jesus glory for what He has done? HINT: What part of your life would have been impossible apart from Jesus' help?
2. How have you seen people (in recent days) look to something other than Jesus for their hope and/or salvation? Why do you suppose they chose this other route? ? What, besides Jesus, do people look to as a framework for their understanding of reality?
3. In Luke 24 we read how Jesus describes Himself as the key to understanding Scripture (vs. 27). And yet it would seem there is a time when He does not want His followers to have a full understanding of spiritual reality (see Luke 24:16, 30-31). Why would Jesus act this way? What implications might there be in this account for the way we share the Gospel?
4. Are you seeing spiritual fruit in your life right now? What does that fruit look like? For a description of such fruit, check out John 15:7-8, 11; Psalm 1:3; Gal. 5:22-23; 2 Peter 1:5-7. What do you need to do to see an increase in such fruit?
5. What is the fate of those who do not abide in Christ (John 15:6)? Check out also Matthew 7:19; 13:41-42. What would you say to someone who says they do not see spiritual fruit in their lives (remembering also John 6:37, 10:27-28)?
6. Has this study challenged, convicted or comforted you?

Memory Verse(s)



⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

John 15:5 (NIV)

Extra Resources



- ❖ “*Solus Christus*” – *Acts 4:12, John 15:5* - by Kyle Corbin, Nov. 8/20 (view at www.immanuelonline.ca). Pastor Kyle helps us understand the uniqueness of Christ and what He (and He alone) provides for us.
- ❖ “*The Jesus I Never Knew*” – by Philip Yancey (Zondervan, 1995). Yancey shows us a Jesus who is brilliant, creative, challenging, compassionate, and more. He is the One who surprises (and changes) us if we let Him.
- ❖ “*The Empty Cross of Jesus*” – by Michael Green (Hodder and Stoughton, 1984). This author explores the meaning of the cross and what the living Jesus means for the theologian, counsellor and disciple.