

LENT  
**2014**

# JESUS GIVES HIS PARISH LIFE

## Talk 1: Jesus Gives Us Direction

Quote 1: "I think everybody should get rich and famous and do everything they ever dreamed of so they can see that that's not the answer." *Jim Carey*

Quote 2: "The answers to our questions are not found in a program, nor in a way of thinking, but in a person, the person Jesus Christ." *Pope John Paul II*

Quote 3: "It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eyes on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone." *Ephesians 1:11-12 (The Message Translation)*

Quote 4: "I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about him: 'I am ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who is merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic -- on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg -- or else he would be the devil from hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a mad man or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him, and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to." *C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity*

Quote 5: "Who do you say that I am?" *Matthew 16:15*

### Small Group Guidelines

- 1) Begin by having everyone introduce themselves and then say a quick prayer.
- 2) Show respect for one another: no negative humor, criticism or judgment.
- 3) No one is required to talk, but we would love to hear from everyone.
- 4) Be brief in your responses and allow time for everyone to share.
- 5) What is shared in the group, stays in the group!
- 6) There is no such thing as a dumb question!

### Small Group Questions

- 1) Are there events in your life or in the world that have made you stop and consider the direction of your life?
- 2) Do you know anyone who, by his or her life example, has made you think about the direction of your life?
- 3) In your life you feel as though you are in the driver's seat or that God is?
- 4) What is your view of Jesus? How has your view change over time or as you have grown older?
- 5) Does your view of Jesus impact your personal life? How would you like it to?
- 6) Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?" Can you answer this question now or are you still exploring?