Devotional

*He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:15, 16, NKJV)*

If someone were to ask you who Jesus is, what would you say?

In Jesus’ time, the people had different ideas of who He was. Some, like Herod, thought He was John the Baptist come back from the dead, others thought He was Elijah while others believed that He was a prophet. Jesus asked His disciples who they thought He was and Peter spoke up, saying, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” This revelation was given to him by God, the Father.

It was after this revelation that Jesus declared He would build the church on the Rock. He is that Rock (1 Corinthians 10:4). He is the head of the church and we who believe in and follow Him make up the body. So, when someone asks you who Jesus is, you can say, “He is the Anointed, the Messiah and the Son of God.” He is the Rock upon whom we are to build our lives so that when the storms of life beat against us, we will not fall but stand because our foundation is solid.

In the Spotlight

Susana Wesley, the mother of John and Charles Wesley was also dubbed the “Mother of Methodism”. She was 19 years old when she married 26 year old Samuel Wesley. They had 19 children, nine of them died as infants and one was accidently smothered by a maid.

Susana suffered many hardships throughout her life. At one point her husband, Samuel left her and the children for over a year due to a minor dispute. She wrote a letter to him telling him how she was going to allocate quality time for each child. Samuel was in prison twice because of his poor financial abilities and lack of money was a constant struggle for his wife. Their house burned down twice and John, one of their sons nearly died and had to be rescued.
from the second story window. After the second fire, Susana was forced to place the children in different homes for almost two years while the rectory was being rebuilt. It was during that time that Susana observed that her children were using improper speech and spent more time playing than studying.

Susana made sure that the children began their formal education after their fifth birthday. They received a good education—six hours of class and they were expected to learn the entire alphabet on the first day. They all learned Latin, Greek and classical studies, the daughters included.

At church, the lack of diversity in the sermons moved Susana to hold family services in her home. They sang psalms, followed by a sermon read by Susana and closed with another psalm. The locals began to attend and soon the church attendance dwindled.

Susana Wesley was a remarkable woman because “...although she never preached a sermon or published a book or founded a church, (she) is known as the Mother of Methodism. Why? Because two of her sons, John Wesley and Charles Wesley, as children consciously or unconsciously will, applied the example and teachings and circumstances of their home life.”

It is thanks to a strong, faith-filled and determined mother that her sons, John and Charles, “men of great faith and conviction led a revival within the Church of England that resulted in the spawning of the second largest Christian denomination in America”.

Sources: Wikipedia; United States History

Bible Study

There are some people who believe in God, the Father but not in God, the Son. The religious leaders in Jesus’ time and the apostle Paul did not accept Him as their Messiah.

Read John 3:16, 17; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:10. Who is Jesus?


Read Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 3:8. What did He do?

Read Romans 3:25; 5:10; Rev. 12:10, 5:9; Galatians 3:13; Hebrews 9:22. Why was it necessary for Jesus to die?

Read John 3:18, 36; 20:31; 1 John 5:10, 13. Why is it crucial that those who believe in the Father must also believe in the Son?