

**Rev. Thomas Emery**  
***“Who’s Reference Point?” Matthew 16:13-20***  
***Salem Presbyterian Church***  
**Sunday, August 24, 2014**

In the pagan town of Caesarea, Jesus was concerned when He turned to His disciples and asked them, "And who do you say that I am?" Jesus' plan for the salvation of the world lay with this small group of men. He was building a team that would carry on after He was gone. Their opinion mattered to Jesus.

### **TEACHING POINTS**

**Teaching Point One: *Many people mistake Who Jesus is.*** It is important that we understand who Jesus really is. We have mistaken notions of who we would like Him to be, but we need to know who He is by His own testimony and actions.

**Teaching Point Two: *Knowing who Jesus is has importance if you want to know the nature of God.***

**Teaching Point Three: *Knowing who Jesus is has importance when you need a reference point to live out your Christian life.***

### **THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE**

Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” (Matthew 16:15-16 NLT).

### **ACTION POINT**

Who do we think Jesus is? It matters little about what people outside the church think. They are not called to be the light of the world. It is a question that matters immensely what you and I think. Jesus is counting on us to offer up our lives in service to the Kingdom in all our important relationships. What we think about Him determines the level the intensity of our commitment. Why not take the time to find out, “Who do you say that I am?”