

**The Question of the Week**

“Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

Matthew 16:13

If Jesus is the Son of God why doesn't he just come right out and say so? Wouldn't that have been a better way to do things? That question seems pretty common sensical to me. If Jesus is, as He says, the Way and the Truth and the Life then why doesn't he just say the Truth and be done with it? Again, a good question. Do you think that such an obvious stance never occurred to Jesus himself? I mean, it is so obvious to us from the vantage point of two thousand years and an awareness of how everything played out in his life and death.

The answer has to do with why the Word became flesh to begin with. We had lost our way. We had broken trust with God. We had been offered friendship and life everlasting. We had only to do as the Lord asked us. But we did not. Our first mother and father decided not to trust, not to obey, not to receive what was being offered to them. And so, they reached out and took what had not been give. They chose not to receive but rather to take.

How will God seek to undo such a choice as this? How can He restore the trust? Slowly he will reveal himself to sinful people. Slowly He will allow them to recognize who He is and why he has come. Slowly they will be able to place their trust in him and overturn our original parents' disobedience and lack of trust. So, instead of simply saying who He is Jesus seeks to engage us and allow us the opportunity to size him up, assess what he does, witness his healings, listen to his teaching and experience his goodness. And then when we are ready, we can speak the truth from our hearts. You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God. It is always better when it comes from deep within us than when it is delivered to us from outside. Is that what you have found? That is the question of the week.