

# LESSON 1

## LEARNING ABOUT JESUS THROUGH THE FOUR GOSPELS



### OBJECTIVES

1. To have a basic understanding of the four gospel books and their characteristics.
2. To understand that each gospel focuses on a different aspect of Jesus' ministry and that, although some details may seem to vary, they are never contradictory.

### MEMORY VERSE

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

(John 3:16)

### PRAYER

1. Thank God for bringing us together here to worship Him and learn His words.
2. Let us remember that Jesus came into this world to accomplish salvation for us so that we can be saved.
3. Ask God to help us to remember what we have learned and put it into practice in our lives.



### Overview

#### 1. The four gospels record the life and ministry of Jesus when He was on earth.

Each gospel depicts Jesus from a different point of view:

- Matthew—Lion—Jesus is the King
  - Teachings of the heavenly kingdom (Mt 13; 18)
- Mark—Ox—Jesus is the Servant of God
  - Jesus is always busy for God's ministry (Mk 1)
- Luke—Man—Jesus is the Son
  - Parable of prayers unique to Luke (Lk 11:5-13; 18:1-8)
- John—Eagle—Jesus is God
  - The seven "I am" show that it is only through Jesus that we can receive salvation.

#### 2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Jesus is the only name that we can rely on to be saved.

#### 3. Life Application—Testimony

#### 4. Activity—Tell Others about Jesus



### Background Knowledge for Teachers

The Bible records the four living creatures, each of which had four faces, in Ezekiel 1:10, "As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle." John had a similar vision in Revelation 4:6-7: "And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature was like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle." What does all this mean?

God chose four men to write about the life of Jesus, corresponding to these four creatures. Matthew sees Jesus as the lion or king. (The lion is associated with the royal tribe of Judah to which King David and his descendants belonged.) Accordingly, Matthew begins his gospel with the words, "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham," and continues by tracing King David's lineage all the way down to Jesus. What could be more fitting for a king?

Mark sees Jesus as the exact opposite: an ox and a servant. There is no genealogy or even any kind of birth story. That wouldn't be appropriate for a servant. Furthermore, few teachings are recorded in the Gospel of Mark. Mark is all about action. Jesus is serving His heavenly Father.

Luke sees Jesus as the Son. He gives us all the details about His birth, and then traces His ancestry back up to Adam, whose name means "man". It is Luke who gives us the more personal details of Jesus' life. Luke's gospel is the only one that records how Jesus was thrown out of His own city of Nazareth and how He sweated drops of blood in Gethsemane. It is also a gospel that emphasizes prayer. Two parables that highlight the importance of persistent prayer can only be found in this gospel (Lk 11:5-13; 18:1-8).

John sees Jesus as the flying eagle that soars up into the heavenly realms. This represents God. In John, the birth story differs greatly from those of Matthew and Luke. It is, simply, "In the beginning was the Word." We are seeing not man, but God. John is the gospel of "I am." This corresponds with Exodus 3:14 when God replied to Moses, saying, "I AM WHO I AM." Jesus, who is "I am," is the bread of life, the light of the world, the door, the good shepherd, the resurrection, the true vine, the way, the truth, and the life. Who but God can lay claim to these titles?



## Reaching Out to Your Students

It is important for E2 students to cultivate a habit of daily Bible reading. It is often recommended to start with the four gospel books when first developing the habit of Bible reading, as they are easier to read and understand. It is important for students to know that sometimes there are differences in the recording of the events in the four gospel books. It does not mean that the books contradict one another; rather, the authors of the gospels focus on different aspects of Jesus' life and complement one another to make the records more complete.



## Opener

5 Minutes

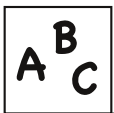
**Preparations:** Cut out the shape of a fish on white construction paper, and then glue it onto the center of black construction paper. Then, cut the paper into four equal pieces to create a puzzle.

### Instructions

1. Using tape or a magnet, place the 1st piece of the puzzle on the board and ask the students to guess the picture.
2. Repeat step one for the 2nd and 3rd pieces.
3. Put the final piece on the board and complete the puzzle.

Often, when we only look at one or two pieces of a puzzle, it is difficult for us to know what the complete picture is. Only when all the pieces of the puzzle have been put together can we clearly see the object, and in this case, it's a fish!

This is similar to the way we understand things. If we only hear a story from one person's perspective, it is sometimes hard for us to get a complete picture of the story. In the Bible, there are four books dedicated to the story of Jesus: the four gospels. Through the four different gospels, we can have a clearer and more complete picture of Jesus and His ministry. We know that the Bible is inspired by God. God moved the four authors—Matthew, Mark, Luke and John—to describe Jesus in four ways.



## Vocabulary

**gospel:** "glad tidings," "good news"

**Synoptic Gospels:** the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke; they include many of the same stories, often in the same sequence and similar wording



## Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

### FOR TEACHERS

Distribute the Bible Discovery Worksheet to the students now. The answers have been underlined and provided in this section. Keep a copy for yourself to reference.

There are four books in the Bible that record Jesus' life on earth; do you know which books these are? (They are the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.) These books are also called the four gospels.

### **Four reasons why the life of Jesus is recorded four times**

- (1) To emphasize its importance
- (2) To corroborate the testimony to His life in the flesh
- (3) To present the different aspects of His character
- (4) To reach different classes of people

As we saw in the previous activity, we could not really guess what the object was until we saw all the pieces of the puzzle. Similarly, although the four gospels all record events about Jesus and His ministry, they record them in different perspectives to give us a more thorough understanding of Jesus.

The books of Ezekiel and Revelation record that the servants of God were like the four living creatures, each with four faces. These four faces are the faces of the lion, ox, man, and eagle, which are the four animals whose characteristics we should have when we serve the Lord! Miraculously, the four gospels also depict Jesus from these four perspectives to give us a more in-depth understanding of Jesus and His ministry.

### **The Gospel of Matthew**

Matthew was a tax collector. He was chosen by the Lord to be one of the twelve apostles. He wrote the Gospel of Matthew for the Jews, depicting Jesus as the Messiah and King, just like the lion in the four living creatures.

Let's first look at Matthew 1:1.

Here it especially mentions that Jesus Christ is the Son of David, and hence the promised King that is to come. Throughout Matthew's gospel, we can see that he quotes many prophecies of the Old Testament and proves that Jesus is the Messiah, the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies.

### FOR TEACHERS

Ask the students to fill in the section about the prophecies fulfilled in the Gospel of Matthew.

### **Answers**

- Mt 1:22-23 Jesus is to be born through a virgin (Is 7:14)  
 Mt 2:5-6 Jesus is to be born in Bethlehem (Mic 5:2, 4)  
 Mt 2:15 Jesus fled to Egypt to escape Herod (Hos 11:1)  
 Mt 2:17-18 Herod killed all infants aged two and under (Jer 31:15)

Matthew is a handbook on the teachings of Jesus. It contains five collections of teachings concerning the kingdom of heaven. The kingdom's law, mission, mysteries, greatness, and future can be respectively found in chapters 5-7, 10, 13, 18, and 24-25.

Let's look at Matthew, chapter 13 for an example.

How many parables are recorded in this chapter and what are they? (Seven; the parable of the sower, the parable of the wheat and the tares, the parable of the mustard seed, the parable of the leaven, the parable of the hidden treasure, the parable of the pearl of great price, and the parable of the dragnet.)

Here, Jesus spoke to the people in parables, and He explained the meaning of the parables to the disciples. Without Jesus' explanation in the parable of the sower (Mt 13:1-9), all we can see is that there were four types of ground, which caused the seeds to grow up in four different ways. But let's read Matthew 13:18-23. Now we can understand that the seed in reference is the word of God. Furthermore, the different types of ground are the different hearts of men. Only when our hearts are ready to receive the word of God can the word of God grow and bear fruit in our lives! Without Jesus' explanation, it would be very difficult to understand the true meaning behind miracles.

Through the Gospel of Matthew, we can see that Jesus indeed is the King who has come to teach us about the heavenly kingdom that He has prepared for us. We need to acknowledge Him as the King of our lives and practice His word in our lives!

### **The Gospel of Mark**

This gospel records Jesus as a powerful, suffering servant of God, who works tirelessly for the ministry of God, just like the ox in the four living creatures. This gospel is compact and action-oriented! There is no genealogy or any birth story, and the teaching passages in Mark seem condensed when compared to other gospels.

Let's look at Mark, chapter one. Underline the words "immediately," "as soon as," "now," and "at once."

We can see in Mark's recording how Jesus was very busy for the gospel of God. He had very tight schedules and often went without much rest at all. He was always on the move for the sake of the gospel. Let's look at Mark 1:21-35; here it records a Sabbath day in Jesus' life.

#### FOR TEACHERS

Ask the students to fill in the section about a Sabbath day in the life of Jesus.

#### Answers

Mk 1:21	Jesus entered the synagogue and taught
Mk 1:23-28	Jesus rebuked the demon and healed the demon-possessed man
Mk 1:29-31	Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law
Mk 1:32-34	In the evening, Jesus healed the sick and the demon-possessed
Mk 1:35	Long before daybreak, Jesus went to a solitary place to pray

Throughout the gospel of Mark, we can see Jesus' active service. Although Jesus was God, He came in the lowly status of a servant in order to save us and accomplish God's salvation plan. How much more should we humble ourselves in the service of the Lord and be mindful of our heavenly Father's business!

### The Gospel of Luke

Luke presents Jesus as the Son. In order to accomplish salvation, Jesus came into this world in the form of a man, thus carrying all the fleshly weaknesses of a human being; yet, Jesus did not sin, leaving us a perfect example of how one can become a Son of God in flesh. The gospel's careful narrative was written as an "orderly account" so that the reader would know the "certainty of those things," that is, the life and teachings of Jesus (Lk 1:1-4; Ac 1:1-2).

As a human being, Jesus experienced the same physical and emotional limitations of man; He was hungry and thirsty, and He cried when He was sad. Therefore, Jesus, as the Son of God on earth, also needed to pray to draw power from God. In his gospel, Luke revealed that Jesus, the Son, connected with His Father through a life of prayer. Jesus prayed at His baptism (Lk 3:21), and He often prayed in secret before and after a day's work (Lk 5:16; 6:12; 9:18, 28-29).

There are two parables found only in Luke that highlight the importance of persistent prayer (Lk 11:5-13; 18:1-8). Today, we will look at one of these parables.

Let's look at Luke 11:5-13.

#### FOR TEACHERS

After reading the passage, ask the students to answer the questions.

#### Answers

##### 1. Why did the friend come to ask for bread at midnight?

A friend of his had come from afar, and he had nothing to offer him.

##### 2. Why was the man inside unwilling to give bread to his friend?

In those days, a house consisted of only one room. During the day, all the daily activities took place in this room, and at night, after the door was shut, the family would lie down to sleep just behind the door.

Therefore, in order to give his friend bread, the man would have to wake up his wife and children and make everyone move aside, just so he could open the door to pass the bread to his friend. The man was unwilling to do so in the beginning for it would be too much trouble.

##### 3. Why did the man give bread to his friend in the end?

His friend was persistent in asking for the bread, so the man decided to give it to him.

Jesus used this parable to explain that, as human beings, we are not perfect, and when compared to God, we are "evil." However, we still know to give good things to our children. Since God is perfect and loving, how much more will God give us His promised Holy Spirit if we pray persistently!

Through Luke's gospel, we can see Jesus as the Son of God on earth. He suffered the same weaknesses as men and yet, He was without sin. His constant prayers are reminders for us that if we want to be holy and victorious in our lives as children of God, we must pray unceasingly throughout our lives!

### The Gospel of John

The Gospel of John, which presents Him as an eagle, is very different from the others. It is the gospel of belief, written to show the world that Jesus was the Christ, that He is God Himself. Jesus was sent by the Father to give eternal life to believers. Miracles in John are referred to as "signs." The signs are given to confirm the deity of Jesus.

Jesus made seven great "I am" metaphors in John.

#### FOR TEACHERS

Ask the students to look up the verses and name the seven "I am."

#### Answers

Jn 6:35	I am the bread of life
Jn 8:12	I am the light of the world
Jn 10:9	I am the door
Jn 10:11	I am the good shepherd
Jn 11:25	I am the resurrection and the life
Jn 14:6	I am the way, the truth, and the life
Jn 15:1	I am the true vine

The seven "I am" teach us that Jesus is the only way through which one can be saved. That is the theme in the gospel of John—Jesus is God. He came to save us and only through Him can we have eternal life.





## Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

### One True God

Today, we learned that each of the four gospels gives us a different emphasis of Jesus' life. Matthew tells us that Jesus is the promised King; Mark portrays Jesus as a servant; Luke describes for us that Jesus is the Son, who is a man just like we are; and John tells us that Jesus is the Son of God, who has come to save us. Through the four gospels, we have a better understanding of Jesus and His ministry. As we know, one of our basic beliefs is that **Jesus is the one true God**. It is indeed wonderful that as God, He still chose to come into the world in flesh to save us so that we can be saved by believing in Him. We should always remember this wonderful saving grace of our Lord and strive to keep His word in our lives, as well as live a life worthy of His calling.



## Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

Write the name of the authors of the four gospels (**Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John**) on the board and under each column, ask the students to use their own words to write what each gospel emphasizes.

**Matthew:** Jesus is the promised King, just like the lion in the four living creatures. It records a lot of fulfillment of the prophecies. It also records in length the message concerning the kingdom of God.

**Mark:** Jesus is the servant of God, likened to the ox in the four living creatures. Mark used a lot of words such as "immediately" and "as soon as" to illustrate that Jesus was diligent and unceasing in His ministry.

**Luke:** Jesus is the Son; He is also the man in the four living creatures. At times of trouble and sadness, we can learn from Jesus and pray earnestly to God for help.

**John:** Jesus is Christ; He is the Son of God, just like the eagle in the four living creatures. The miracles in John are called "signs" to prove His Sonship. The seven "I am" in John also show us that we can only be saved through believing in Jesus.



## Life Application

10 Minutes

### Testimony

[Hand out the Life Application worksheet and read the testimony to the students as they follow along. Alternately, ask the students to take turns reading sections of the testimony. After the testimony has been read, ask the students to answer the questions on the worksheet. When everyone has finished answering the questions, discuss the answers as a class.]

### Discussion Questions

#### 1. What was Brian's first prayer to Jesus?

He prayed for Jesus to relieve his father's pain, as his father was in pain due to cancer.

#### 2. What kind of difficulties did Brian encounter after coming to church? Have you encountered any obstacles in keeping your faith?

His family regarded him as unfilial because he refused to offer incense at his father's funeral. He also had to prepare his own food during festive times, as he refused to eat the food his family offered to idols.

[Note: Allow the students to share any difficulties they have had in keeping their faith.]

#### 3. What can you learn about Jesus—the God whom we worship—from this testimony?

He is a God who listens to prayers; He guides people to come to the true church; and He abides with the church.



## Activity

### Tell Others About Jesus

10-15 Minutes

**Objective:** To remind students to count the blessings of God in their lives and encourage them to share their faith with others.

#### Materials

- 1" x 6" strips of colored paper (one strip for each group of 2-3 students)

#### Instructions

1. Write a scenario on each strip of paper. The scenario should be one that can create a conversation about faith in school.

Suggested scenarios:

- During lunchtime at school, you take out your sandwich and quickly say a silent prayer. When you open your eyes and start to eat your sandwich, your friend asks you what you were doing just now...
- Your best buddy is having a birthday party on Saturday. He has not only asked you to go to the party, but he has also asked you to sleep over on Friday night to help prepare for the party. While you're there, both of you can have a movie night. You are hesitant because you know it is Sabbath...
- One day, your friends ask you, "Why do you need to go to church every Saturday? What do you do there?"


2. Ask students if they have tried to preach to their friends about Jesus. Encourage students to share their experiences.
3. Divide the class into groups of two or three students and have each group pick a strip of paper.
4. Ask the groups to discuss what they would do/say when they encounter the situation in the scenario.
5. Have each group act out their scenario and solution to the class, and ask other groups if they would have done anything different or if they have any other solutions.
6. Encourage students not to forget the grace of God in their lives and to be courageous in sharing their faith with others.

#### HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. Matthew: Jesus as a lion; the promised King; records fulfillment of prophecies
2. Mark: Jesus as an ox; a servant of God; records Jesus' diligent and unceasing ministry
3. Luke: Jesus as man; the Son; teaches us to pray to God in times of need
4. John: Jesus as an eagle; the Son of God; records miracles/signs to prove Jesus is the Son of God; the seven "I am" show only He can save us
5. Answers may vary.

LEARNING ABOUT JESUS THROUGH THE FOUR GOSPELS

Fill in the blanks in the second column as the teacher goes over the lesson. Then, fill in the third column as your teacher asks you to complete each section.

Gospel	Theme (Four Living Creatures)	Features
Matthew	Jesus is the _____ ( )	<p><b>Name the prophecies recorded as fulfilled in the first two chapters, and the author of each prophecy.</b></p> <p>Mt 1:22-23                      Mt 2:5-6                      Mt 2:15                      Mt 2:17-18</p>
Mark	Jesus is the _____ ( )	<p><b>Write down a Sabbath day in Jesus' life.</b></p> <p>Mk 1:21                      Mk 1:23-28                      Mk 1:29-31                      Mk 1:32-34                      Mk 1:35</p>
Luke	Jesus is the _____ ( )	<p><b>The parable of persistent prayer (Lk 11:5-13)</b></p> <p>Why did the friend come to ask for bread at midnight?</p> <p>Why was the man inside unwilling to give bread to his friend?</p> <p>Why did the man give bread to his friend in the end?</p>
John	Jesus is the _____ ( )	<p><b>Name the seven "I am" metaphors.</b></p> <p>Jn 6:35                      Jn 8:12                      Jn 10:9                      Jn 10:11                      Jn 11:25                      Jn 14:6                      Jn 15:1</p> 

The following is a testimony from Bro. Brian Lim in Singapore about how God guided him to come to know Him. Through this testimony, we will learn that Jesus, whom we worship, is the only true God, and that we can only be saved through believing in Him.

## FROM IDOLS TO SALVATION

### A DEVOUT IDOL WORSHIPPER

I am by nature very introspective and religious. At the tender age of ten, I was already asking such questions: Is there a God? How many deities are there in heaven? Where will I go after I die?

My family was Taoist and worshipped the Goddess of Mercy. I liked going with my parents, and especially my grandmother, to Chinese temples for worship rituals.

We would gather with other worshippers, chant for half an hour or more, and listen to sermons from a monk. Although I didn't understand most of what the monk said, I never grumbled about the long hours there.

Back home, I chanted three times a day and offered incense to the ancestral shrines and idols in the house. I was a staunch believer in ancestor worship even at that young age.

My first and indirect brush with Christianity came when I was twelve, and it literally ended in flames. I found out that one of my brothers had joined a very active Christian group at his college. Christian tracts were often sent to him at home, and he had to be cautious, as my father was extremely anti-Christian. I also knew where my brother hid those publications.

My father eventually discovered that my brother was part of this Christian group and lectured and nagged him daily. Seeing my father so angry and wanting to please him, I told him where the tracts were hidden. When my brother was out of the house, we dug them out and burned them. I was glad that I had pleased my father by helping him get rid of these Christian tracts.

About two years later, I had two classmates and an English teacher who were Christians. Once in a while, these classmates would talk to me about Christ, but it did not leave any impression on me.

I had been told from a young age that all religions were the same since they all taught man to do good. Moreover, I had also been taught that Christianity was a foreign religion and being Chinese, I should stick to the traditional religions, namely Taoism or Buddhism, handed down from our ancestors.

One time, a Christian classmate shocked me when he said that Christians are smarter than Taoists because Taoists are silly enough to offer food to blocks of wood. I knew that he was serious because his family had converted to Christianity. I was so offended by his remark that I stopped listening from then on whenever Jesus was mentioned.

### TRYING CHRISTIAN PRAYER

That same year, when I was fourteen, my father's health deteriorated very quickly and he was diagnosed with liver cancer. By year's end, the pain was so great that he would toss and turn with each spasm. The sight of him in such agony broke my heart.

Whenever my father was in pain, I would beg the deities I worshipped to have mercy and to heal him. Oftentimes, I would plead for them to give him a moment of peace and be relieved of the pain so he could sleep well. I even hit my head against the floor as I begged. But none of my requests were granted.

One night, while my father was in the throes of pain, my Christian classmate called me. When I told her that my father was in great pain, she suggested that I pray to Jesus. The moment I heard "Jesus," I hung up on her. She called back and I hung up when she brought up Jesus again. When she called a third time, I gave in.



Since my usual deities had not listened to me, I decided that there was no harm in trying this foreign God. So I asked her to teach me how to pray. She said, "It's very simple. Start with 'In Jesus' name, I pray,' and just say whatever you want to say. That's all." Indeed, it seemed simple—no idol was needed, and I could pray anywhere.

After hanging up the phone, I went into my room. I prayed and begged with a sincere heart that Jesus relieve my father of his pain. During the prayer, I felt a great sense of peace that I had never experienced before, certainly not while chanting or praying to idols.

After the prayer, I went to my father's room to check on him. He was no longer in pain and was fast asleep! Exhilarated, I told myself that there must be something special about Jesus. My request had been granted after only one prayer to Him while my repeated requests to the idols had been ignored.

I decided not to offer incense or chant to any deities anymore. I wanted to learn more about Jesus.

### **MY SEARCH FOR JESUS**

Back in school, I began to discuss Christianity with my two Christian classmates and ask them questions about the religion. When I did that, many of my Muslim classmates, who had never talked to me about Islam before, also came to talk to me about the Quran.

My new faith in Jesus was soon shaken by my interaction with my Muslim friends. There were times when they were so persuasive that I was tempted to join their religious classes and have their teacher explain the teachings of Islam to me. But I never went.

Instead, I turned to my Christian English teacher to clear my doubts. However, her answers could not completely reassure me and restore my faith in Christianity. I was left with many questions and no answers.

About two months later, the classmate who had taught me to pray was also looking for a church to join. She told me that she knew of a small and quiet church at Telok Kurau called True Jesus Church. She added that if one sat quietly in the pews towards the back of the chapel, people would not come up to ask questions or chat.

Since I am quite a shy person who does not like crowds, this church sounded ideal. We decided to attend a service together, so we joined a Wednesday evening service. I was quite shocked by the prayer in tongues. Still, I returned for a Friday evening service when my classmate asked me to go with her again.

During the closing prayer, I heard singing. It was an angelic sound that hovered near the ceiling, like a physical presence that swayed back and forth. It was very soothing and gave me a wonderfully peaceful sensation. From then on, all fear of prayer in tongues disappeared.

### **COMING HOME**

I stayed in the True Jesus Church to search for the truth. I often felt that the sermons were directed at me. Sometimes, they answered my questions about life, and other times, they strengthened my conviction that this was the true church of God.

I asked many questions, including those that had surfaced after conversations with my Muslim friends. Thank God that the two brothers who studied the Bible with me were able to provide Bible-based answers to all my questions.

However, many obstacles popped up after I started going to church. It was difficult to attend services because my family still opposed Christianity, and I had to lie about where I was going in order to get out of the house.

A year after I came to True Jesus Church, my father passed away. After the funeral, I was told to offer incense to his tablet on the altar every morning. I refused, which angered my family and caused them to see me as an unfilial child.

In addition, I had to buy or cook my own meals during festive seasons as I refused to eat the food that my family had sacrificed to the idols. But through it all, I never saw these obstacles as a burden because I knew that I had to do what was right in the eyes of God.

Over the next few years, with increased understanding of the truth, I was even more convinced that I had found the true church. My discussions with classmates from other Christian denominations reinforced this belief because I found that they did not fully adhere to the Bible.

I was eager to get baptized but had to wait, since my family opposed my baptism and I was not yet twenty-one years old. As a minor, I wasn't free to make this decision on my own. But when I turned twenty, I signed up for baptism because I didn't want to delay any longer. I did not tell my siblings because I knew they would disagree with my decision. I did tell my mother, who gave me permission to proceed.

More than two decades have passed, and I still feel so very blessed that God brought me to His true church. I have had many doctrinal discussions with other Christians, even attending their services to see what their worship sessions were like. I could never feel the presence of God in these other places.

Conversely, attending worship services at the True Jesus Church is like coming home. Though I am still a shy person, I enjoy the fellowship with brothers and sisters. The truth from the sermons continues to enlighten and inspire me, and I derive so much peace and joy listening to the word of God that I try to attend all services.

Great is the Lord! He led me to know Him even though I was a sinner who once felt anger at the mention of His name. I really thank God for such deep love and mercy. All glory to Jesus!

#### **Discussion Questions**

1. What was Brian's first prayer to Jesus?
2. What kind of difficulties did Brian encounter after coming to church? Have you encountered any obstacles in keeping your faith?
3. What can you learn about Jesus—the God whom we worship—from this testimony?

