

## **JESUS IS THE CHRIST**

- In Matt.16:13, Jesus asked His disciples an important Christmas question,  
“Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”
- In Matt.16:14, His disciples gave four popular opinions:  
“John the Baptist; Elijah; Jeremiah; or one of the prophets.”
- In Matt.16:15, Jesus asked His disciple a second important Christmas question,  
“But who do you say that I am?”
- In Matt.16:16, Peter gave the correct answer to this important Christmas question,  
“**You (Jesus) are the Christ, the Son of Living God.**”
- In Matt.16:17, Jesus responded with a great Christmas gift for Peter,  
“**Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.**”

This was the first true Christmas for the disciples of Jesus who learned that Jesus is the Christ and Christ is the reason for **Christmas**.

Our lesson goes back some 30 years to Mary and Joseph being told that Mary’s first born would be named Jesus, the Christ.

God sent Gabriel to hold a home Bible study entitled: “Jesus is The Christ” for Mary (Luke 1:26-38).

**We study two important doctrinal points to Mary regarding “Jesus is The Christ.”**

### **1. Mary received a spiritual field promotion by God.**

She received it for the ministry God was about to reveal to her by way of Gabriel’s salutation:

Luke 1:28 “Greeting, favored one (charitoo/ perf.p.ptc.vsf)! The Lord is with you.”

This special salutation means that Mary has reached the spiritual maturity necessary to be assigned a special ministry from God (Eph.4:13-14; Phil.3:13-14).

God never calls you to a ministry that He has not prepared to bring to completion with you!

Luke 1:28 “The Lord is with you” (Heb.11:5; 1 Pet.1:6-11).

- God's assigned ministry for Mary can only be accomplished by God's grace working through Mary applying the faith cycle.

What was that assigned ministry? (Luke 1:31-35) **The Miraculous Conception!**

(2 Thess.1:3) "We ought always give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is only fitting, **because your faith (he pistis/ nsf) is greatly enlarged (huperauxano/ p.a.ind.3ps) [spiritual maturity capacity], and the love (he agape/ nsf) of God grows (pleonazo/ p.a.ind.3ps) [rapidly increases] ever greater.**"

## THE FAITH CYCLE



(1 Cor. 7:17) "Only, as the Lord has assigned to each one, as God has called each, in this manner let him walk. And so, I direct in all the churches."

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**