

# SHORT-TERM SMALL GROUPS (FALL 2015)

## *JESUS SERIES - Week One*

### **GROUP TIME:**

**FOUNDATION:** Pete starts off this 6-week Small Group Sermon Series focusing on “Jesus as the Son of Man.”

**BACKGROUND:** The term “Son of Man” is used over 80 times in the New Testament. It was a term familiar to the Jewish audience of that time. It is primarily used in two ways:

- 1) The term “Son of Man” was a Messianic title. Jesus was referring to himself as the Messiah. Messiah literally meant to the savior of a particular group or cause. To the Jew this is the One that they were looking for to deliver them from their oppressors and set up a ruling kingdom.
- 2) The “Son of Man” is a reference to Jesus’ humanity. The “Son of Man” is a man.

### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Group Facilitator:** To begin the Bible emphasis for your group discussion, take a moment and review from Pete’s sermon the two primary interpretations seen above in the New Testament for the phrase “Son of Man.”

**Group Facilitator:** Ask if two people would be willing to read John 5:27, and I John 4:2. **Tip:** These can be found on the document titled: *Scriptures: Week One*

*Discussion:* Ask your group if someone would like to share anything from Pete’s sermon or from these two definitions of the “Son of Man” and the supporting Scriptures that stood out to them.

### **VIDEO**

**Group Facilitator:** Watch the video as a group.

**Big Picture:** The primary focus for Pete’s first video is to unpack the term the “Son of Man” and specifically connect it to Jesus. The video dives deeper into what the term really meant to the Jewish audience as Jesus connects Old Testament Scriptures to himself.

In the video, Pete refers to two great passages of Scripture.

- 1) The first passage is found in the Old Testament book of Daniel (7:13-14). *Side Note:* The book of Daniel was written over 600 years prior to Jesus’ life and ministry.
- 2) The second passage is found in the New Testament book of Matthew (26:63-66). This passage picks up very close to the time of Jesus’ crucifixion. In this passage Jesus directly connects himself as the literal fulfillment of Daniel’s prophecy.

**Group Facilitator: Ask for two volunteers from your group to read Daniel 7:13-14 and Matthew 26:63-66. (Found on handout: Scriptures: Week One)**

*Discussion:*

- 1) Ask your group for any thoughts, observations, or feedback that they have from reading the two passages.
- 2) Ask your group if their views of Jesus have been impacted/shaped/changed as a result of this week's focus on Jesus as the "Son of Man." Allow anyone to share their thoughts or insights gained.
- 3) The "Son of Man" was a title that Jesus used to identify himself as the Savior. A commonly used title for a Christian is "one who follows Christ." What are some practical statements or examples that we can come up with that would support the title "one who follows Christ"?

## **PRAYER**

**Group Facilitator: Lead your group in a closing prayer. Depending on time, you may want to ask if anyone has prayer requests.**

