

“ Spoken word

e.g. 2017, my dad and I went to Caesarea Philippi

HIS IDENTITY

“When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.” (Matthew 16:13-17, NIV)

- **“You are the Messiah”**
 - The One who fulfils prophecy
 - The expected King in David’s royal lineage
 - The deliverer of God’s people
- **“The Son of the living God”**
 - Not “a son”, but “The Son”
 - Reference to Jesus’s eternal relationship with the Father
 - Same divine essence as the Father

“ Jesus is (if you agree say “Amen”)

- Saviour

- Redeemer
- Lord
- Creator
- Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace
- King of Kings
- Head of the Church
- The Almighty
- Alpha and Omega
- Immanuel, God with us
- Judge
- Cornerstone
- Author and Finisher of our faith
- Lamb of God
- Good Shepherd
- The Word
- Fountain of living water
- The Rock
- The True Vine
- The Bridegroom
- The Lion of the Tribe of Judah
- The bright and Morning Star
- The image of the invisible God
- I AM
- The Son of Man
- The Way, the Truth and the Life
- The Son of David
- King of Kings, and Lord of Lords



Is He your Saviour, rock, Lord, Redeemer?

- **“This was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven”**

e.g.

Message from Ashish Garel:

During my mission trip in March, I went to Jajarkot. While sharing the Gospel, I met a 54-year-old man named Dili Bashi. Before sharing the Gospel with him, my question was, “Do you know Jesus? Have you ever heard the name of Jesus?”

After hearing my question, he was surprised by the name “Jesus.”

He asked me, “Does this man named Jesus live in this village? Tell me His father’s name so I can recognise Him.”

I was amazed to hear those words because, in his entire life, he had never even heard the name of Jesus. I then shared the Gospel with him, and at the end he accepted Jesus as his Saviour. After that, he asked me to come to his home and share about Jesus with his family.

When we went to his house, his wife and three brothers were there. By God’s grace, they all accepted Jesus as their Saviour, and we were able to start a house church there. Now they gather together for Bible study and prayer.

Praise God for His wonderful work among the unreached people. God bless you. Ashish

Want to go to Nepal? admin@goglobalfamily.org

- Months later Peter stands in front of the same court that condemned Jesus and declares:

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12, NIV)



Tell someone about Jesus

HIS MISSION

“And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.” (Matthew 16:18)

- First mention of the word “church”
- **“When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi”**
 - Jesus, a master communicator
 - **Map:** Caesarea Philippi (Mt. Hermon), the source of the river Jordan
- First fact about the Jordan:
 - Flows from Caesarea Philippi to the Dead Sea (-416m), which is the lowest point on earth!

**“... where the river flows everything will live.”
(Ezekiel 47:9, NIV)**

- Just as the Jordan flows down to the Dead Sea, the flow of God’s Spirit through the church is always drawn towards the deepest need, the darkest places and the broken places of the world
- I see the church thriving in places where people know their need and brokenness

e.g. There’s a plumber’s van in South Africa, with the ad on the side: **There is no place too deep, too dark or too dirty for us to handle.**

**“Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.” By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive.”
(John 7:37-39, NIV)**

- How are cities, communities and families transformed?
 - God’s answer isn’t coming from the skies
 - God’s answer is coming **“from within”** you
 - You carry the revival this nation / your family needs

- Second fact about the Jordan:

- Helps water the land
- In the same way, the church is God's means of blessing the earth

“ Emperor Jullian commenting to a pagan friend: **“We can't stop these Christians, the reason they're so popular is the Jews take care of the Jewish poor, the Greeks take care of the Greek poor, the Romans take care of the Roman poor, the Christians take care of them all.”**

- **“I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it”**
 - Gates = a defensive point for a city
 - An offensive, not a defensive statement
 - Has anyone been attacked by gates?
 - Has anyone found a gate hard to open?
- I.e., the church takes back territories

Q **According to Operation World the fastest-growing evangelical Christian populations:**

- **Iran 19.6%**
- **Afghanistan 16.7%**
- **Cambodia 8.8%**
- **North Korea 6%**


e.g. **“Who do you work for?”**
World's biggest employer (30 million employees)


World's biggest voluntary workforce (100s of millions)
Branch in every town & city
168,000 new members a day
4,500 new branches a week!
“Apple? Google?”
Imagine the shock ... “The Church”

- Go Global is all about the local church
- **Our vision: multiplying disciples, establishing churches, releasing ministries, supporting leaders**
- **Churches that have been planted: 3 just starting; Fife, Rutherglen, Stockton**, Nairobi, Abuja, 3 in Nepal, and 50 churches in India (including the Prayer Centre in Visag city)
- **Churches that have joined:** 6 churches in Nepal, ReHope Church, Freedom Fighters (Ayrshire), New Life (Lancaster), and Longton Community Church
- **Building projects:** Rise building in Faisalabad, Pakistan, and expanded Global Centre India from 250 to 500 seats
- **Training & conferences:** Leaders' conferences in the UK, Uganda, India, and Nepal, plus our first Global Gathering in Edinburgh, Forge 18–30s launched
- **Mission & outreach:** Ashish completed a multi-week mission trip in Nepal sharing the gospel and planting churches and Youth Easter outreach in Stoke


- **Support:** PA equipment for a church in Africa, funding for two church plants in Africa, significant debt cleared in India, and Bibles provided for Uganda
- **GG staffing:** Craig, Sarah, George, Kate and Pete

 **YouTube (@goglobfamily) for monthly updates**

 Thank you churches for your generosity (tithes)
Today's offering

 In pairs, take 2 minutes to thank God for the past year and pray for the year ahead

• He said, **“I will build My church [Ekklesia]”**

-  The word ekklesia originally referred to a secular body in Ancient Greece—the official assembly of citizens and the central gathering of Athenian democracy
- They met on the Pnyx Hill in Athens to:
 - Debate laws
 - Make political decisions
 - Decide on war or peace
 - Determine the direction of the city
 - In other words, the ekklesia was a governing assembly of people called out to shape the future of their society

The Amplified translation brings out the literal ...

“I will give you the keys (authority) of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind [forbid, declare to be improper and unlawful] on earth will have [already] been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose [permit, declare lawful] on earth will have [already] been loosed in heaven.” (Matthew 16:19, AMP)

- I.e., heaven leads, earth responds
- So the church is not deciding heaven’s will, but discerning and enforcing what heaven has already determined

“Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, “Tabitha, get up.” She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up.” (Acts 9:40, NIV)



Prayerful churches that perceive God’s will and move in authority

HIS SACRIFICE

“From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter

took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.” (Matthew 16:21-23)

- The disciples loved the victorious statement, **“the gates of Hades will not overcome it”**
- But now He’s telling them how the church will have death and devil-conquering power—He must die & rise!

“Because God’s children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death.” (Hebrews 2:14, NLT)

e.g. These days we use banking apps—if you get a cheque, you take a photo, hit submit, and then wait a few days to see if it clears.

The cross was the payment—when Jesus rose, it was the confirmation the cheque had cleared.

“Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.” (Revelation 1:17-18, NIV)



The way the church advances is with the gospel
It has sin-conquering, death-defeating power

OUR RESPONSE

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.” (Matthew 16:24-25, NIV)

- We read this knowing that Jesus died on a cross
- The disciples didn't know that yet
- The world says, “indulge yourself”, “prioritise yourself”
 - Jesus says, “**deny yourself**”
- The world says, “find yourself”
 - Jesus says, “**lose yourself**”
- Truth: the happiest people I know are those who's life is not about them



It makes sense when you know:
• His identity, His mission, His sacrifice