

# The Jesus We Talk About

## How He Challenges Us

### Matthew 14:13-16

Life is unworthy of living if it is without challenges. Without challenges we are apt to not reach our potential, plus, such a life is dull and unsatisfying. In the Gospels, Jesus is a man who challenges people to rise up to their best efforts. Would we really want a Savior who asked for less?

The Challenge to Seek the Fullness of God's Word (Matt. 5-7)

- Misapplied, incomplete religion is unacceptable
- II Timothy 2:15

The Challenge to Come and Learn of the Christ (Matt. 11:27-30)

- Only a personal relationship anchored in love and knowledge will work
- Philippians 3:7-11

The Challenge Understand the Balance of a Godly Life (Matt. 5:17-20; 12:1-7)

- There can be no compromise with truth, but truth involves justice, mercy, faithfulness, and love (Matt. 23:23-24; Lk. 11:42)
- Galatians 2:15-21

The Challenge to Overcome Human Traditions (Mk. 7:1-23)

- Sometimes we enjoy making our own rules more than keeping God's
- Galatians 1:11-17

The Challenge to resist Pride (Matt. 23:1-12)

- Life is not about me
- Galatians 2:20

Jesus was indeed a man who challenged friends and foes alike. He challenged because He loved. We accept His challenges as we grow in love (Jn. 14:15, 23)

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