

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – B

Do you like to play games? I have always enjoyed playing games. One game I like to play is called, "Who Am I?" I thought it would be fun to play the "Who Am I?" game this morning.

Here is how you play the game. I will give you four clues for each person. I will read the clues one at a time. Whenever you think you know who the person is, raise your hand, and I will call on someone to guess.

Are you ready? Here is the first clue:

- I was a tax collector
- I cheated people out of their money
- I was very, very small
- I might be found up a tree

(Continue playing the game as time permits. When you are ready, end the game with the "Jesus" clues and then continue with the sermon.)

You know, I think Jesus liked to play the "Who Am I?" game too. One day he was with his disciples and he asked them, "Who do men say that I am?"

"Some say you are John the Baptist," said one of the disciples.

"Some say you are Elijah or one of the prophets," answered another.

"But who do you say that I am?" asked Jesus.

"You are the Christ," answered Peter.

Peter got it right, didn't he? Did you know that there are still many people today who don't know who Jesus is? If you ask, they might say, "He was a great teacher." Or some might say, "He was a great religious leader." They don't know what Peter knew. They don't know what you and I know. They don't know that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

How do we know Jesus is the Christ – the Son of God?

Resurrection! ONLY Jesus defeated death

ABRAHAM & MOSES – Patriarchs – DEAD & BURIED

ISAIAH, JEREMIAH, EZEKIAL – Prophets – DEAD & BURIED

MOHAMMED & BUDDAH – DEAD & BURIED

Only Jesus DIED, WAS BURIED **and ROSE FROM THE DEAD**

Jesus embraced the cross **FOR US**

Jesus rose from the dead **FOR US – why? – to show us our destiny**

Who do people say YOU are?

Do they say you are a CHRISTIAN? OR NOT?

To get the resurrection promised by Christianity – you need the cross.

So be thankful for the crosses in your life

That is why Peter gets rebuked by Jesus – he wanted to save JC from cross

Only thru the cross do you get resurrection

Only thru the cross do we receive salvation

Only thru the cross do we inherit everlasting life

Praise God that Jesus knew who He was – may we be ever faithful to Him

Who am I? (Mary)

- I was a young woman who found favor with God
- I was chosen to do something great
- I was visited by an angel
- I became the mother of God's only Son

Who am I? (Jonah)

- I was told by God to go and preach
- Instead, I ran away
- I caused a great storm on the sea
- A giant fish swallowed me

Who Am I? (Adam)

- I lived, but I was never born
- I gave all the animals their names
- I lived in a beautiful garden called Eden
- I was the very first man

Who Am I? (Joseph)

- I was my father's favorite son
- My brothers hated me
- My brothers sold me as a slave
- I wore a coat of many colors

Who am I? (David)

- I was just a little shepherd boy
- I liked to play the harp
- I was pretty good with a sling shot
- I became famous for killing a giant

Who am I? (Eve)

- I was not first, but I was second
- I was made from the rib of a man
- I lived in a beautiful garden
- I was tempted by a snake

Who am I? (Delilah)

- I had my eye on a strong man named Samson
- I knew the secret of where Samson got his strength
- I wanted to give Samson a haircut
- When I cut Samson's hair, he lost all of his strength