



# Once Upon a Time

*The Story God is Telling and How You Fit*

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Week 7- October 29, 2017

## The One We Were Waiting For

Introduction: Jesus was a supernova of hope in a dark, hopeless world!

### What Did Jesus Come to DO (His Mission)?

- Announce God's kingdom to Israel and the world. (Mark 1:14-15)
- Give a preview of life in God's kingdom, where...
  - All the sick will be healed. (Mark 1:40-45)
  - All the slaves will be set free. (Mark 1:21-28)
  - All people will join God's family. (Mark 1:16-20)
- Explain God's kingdom to Israel and the world. (Matthew 18:21-22, Matthew 20:25-27)

### Who Really WAS Jesus (His Identity)? (Matthew 16:13-20)

- He was the Messiah, the King!
- He was the One they were waiting for!
- He was the One who would make the Kingdom a reality.

Conclusion: Jesus has "good news" to announce to you today.

- God's Happy Ending for the world is inevitable. (So, have HOPE!)
- Have you ever turned away from your sin? (So, REPENT!)
- Have you ever turned to Jesus for your rescue? (So, BELIEVE!)

Debrief Plan: 10/29/2017

### Icebreakers:

1. Who is an interesting figure in society that fascinates you? Why?
2. What is something that you really have a hard time waiting for?

Sermon Summary: Jesus was born into a nation eagerly waiting for the Messiah who would rescue His people and make God's restorative rule on earth a reality. His mission was simple: to announce God's kingdom, to give a preview of what life in God's kingdom would look like, and to explain God's kingdom to people who misunderstood it. Ultimately, he showed himself to be the Messiah they had been waiting for.

### Discussion Questions:

\* **What did Jesus come to DO? (Mission)** (Read Mark 1:14-15.)

1. What is it about Jesus that people find fascinating 2000 years later, even people who don't believe He's the Son of God?
2. If Jesus mission was to announce good news for the world, then why did so many people hate him?
3. Do you think that Jesus really needed to **show** people the Kingdom? Why not just tell them about it?
4. List some of Jesus's most famous "miracle stories." On a scale of 1-10, how effective were they in bringing about real belief?
5. Which "Kingdom preview" would you have liked to witness – healing the sick, freeing the captives, or bringing people into God's family?
6. Why did Jesus have to do so much explaining about what God's kingdom was really all about? Shouldn't it all have been obvious?
7. What is something Jesus taught about God's kingdom that YOU struggle to understand and wish He were here to explain to you?

\* **Who really WAS Jesus? (Identity)** (Read Matthew 16:13-20.)

8. Why do you think Jesus was so excited to hear Peter's answer in verse 16? If he wanted people to know who He was, why command the disciples to tell no one who He was (see verse 20)?