***How can I know Jesus?***

At one point Jesus turned to his followers and asked them *‘Who do men say I am?’* They gave him a survey of popular opinions and then Jesus said, *‘OK, but who do you say I am?’*

This is the most important question that any of us will ever answer.

The Bible tells us that there is a loving God who made everything that exists and that he wants to have a personal relationship with each of us.  But there is a problem.  Our actions – the selfish, cruel and neglectful things we have thought and done; the indifference and rejection we have shown toward God – have caused a separation between us and God.  We cannot erase these things and bridge the gap by piling up ‘good’ things, because the separation remains.

The good news the Bible has to tell is that God has overcome this separation when we could not.  Jesus said that he came to seek and save the lost, the separated.  He said that he would give his life as a ransom to rescue many.  And he said that he was God.  In Jesus, God himself was taking the punishment which our actions justly deserved and wiping them out when he died on the cross.

But that is not the end of the story.  Jesus rose again from the dead.  Now all those who are united to him by baptism and trusting in him are united to God – the separation is over.  He gives us a new start, a new life, and he fills us with his own Spirit so that we can walk in ongoing fellowship with him forever.

So, what do we have to do?

Firstly, we have to admit that we have messed up and need God to help us

Secondly, we need to repent (completely turn away) from those things which prevent us from having a personal relationship with God.

Thirdly, we need to be baptised for the forgiveness of our sins.

Fourthly, we need to belong to the Church in order to participate in the Holy Sacraments and fellowship with other Christians.

So, Jesus is asking you, *‘Who do you say I am?’*

For more information contact……………

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