Four Portraits of Jesus Answer Key

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| Gospel of Matthew Portrait of Jesus  Teacher and Prophet, Like Moses  Matthew 4:23–5:11, Matthew 13:44–48, Matthew 25:31–47 | |
| Notes | * Jesus teaches and heals * The Beatitudes * Parables about the Kingdom: Treasure in a Field, Pearl of Great Price, a Net Full of Fish * The Last Judgment (Parable of the Sheep and the Goats) |
| 1. In what ways is Jesus portrayed as a teacher and prophet like Moses in these passages? | * Jesus teaches through his words (including through parables) and actions. * Like Moses delivering the Law from Mount Sinai, Jesus delivers the Beatitudes  in the Sermon on the Mount, focusing on the Law of Love. |
| 1. What is the central message of his teaching? | * To love and serve one another. |
| 1. What do these passages teach us about the Kingdom of God? | * It is worth giving our lives for. * It will bring us joy. * It is available to all people. |
| Gospel of Mark Portrait of Jesus  The Suffering Servant of God  Mark 8:27–37, Mark 9:30–32, Mark 11:12–14 | |
| Notes | * Jesus predicts his Passion and death. * He teaches the disciples that the Messiah must suffer and die. * He shows human needs and emotions such as like hunger and frustration. |
| 1. In what ways do these passages highlight Jesus’ humanity? | * They show that Jesus experienced human needs and emotions, such as hunger and frustration. * They indicate that he truly suffered and died on the cross. |
| 1. How does Mark emphasize Jesus as the Suffering Servant of God? | * Jesus speaks openly about his coming suffering and death, even though this makes his disciples upset and uncomfortable. |
| Gospel of Luke Portrait of Jesus  Compassionate Healer  Luke 4:14–22a, Luke 10:25–37, Luke 16:19–31 | |
| Notes | * Jesus uses a passage from the prophet Isaiah to teach about his mission. * Parable of the Good Samaritan * Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man |
| 1. According to Luke, what is Jesus’ mission? | * To reach out to all people―especially those who are poor, outcast, or marginalized in some way―and share with them the Good News of God’s Kingdom. |
| 1. Whom does Jesus unexpectedly highlight as an example of goodness? What does this tell us about who Jesus is? | * Jesus highlights the Samaritan’s compassionate actions. * Because Jews at that time hated Samaritans, this tells us that Jesus is not bound by society’s views of who is good, worthy, or capable of being a role model. |

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| Gospel of John Portrait of Jesus  Incarnate Word of God  John 1:1–18, John 15:1–5, John 16:25–28 | |
| Notes | * The poetic prologue to John’s Gospel * The vine and the branches * Jesus came from God the Father and will return there. |
| 1. How do these passages demonstrate John’s emphasis on Jesus’ divinity? | * They show that Jesus is the Divine Word of God, pre-existent with God since  the beginning of time. * Through the Incarnation, Jesus became flesh and lived a human life on Earth. * In his death and Resurrection, Jesus returned to God the Father. |
| 1. What symbols or images does John use to speak of Jesus’ divinity? | * The Word of God is God’s “light” coming into the world. * “I am” indicates Jesus’ divinity (connection with God’s Revelation to Moses). * The vine and the branches: Jesus is the “true vine,” and God the Father is the  vine grower. |