

Thursday 2nd in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mk 3,7-12): Jesus and His disciples withdrew to the lakeside and a large crowd from Galilee followed Him (...). He healed so many that all who had diseases kept pressing towards Him to touch Him. Even the people who had evil spirits, whenever they saw Him, would fall down before Him and cry out, «You are the Son of God». But He warned them sternly not to tell anyone who he was.

Jesus, Son "con-substantial" with God

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)
(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, we see, fully aghast, how people with evil spirits —prior to other men— would recognize Jesus Christ as being the "Son of God". Jesus warns them not to tell anyone who he was: this mystery should be revealed to men with pedagogy. The term "Son of God" identified Him with the living God present among us; it connected Him with the being of God Himself.

To get deeper into this truth demanded great efforts. Is He the Son in the sense of a "special closeness" to God (it was thus how Israel considered its Kings), or was He really truly "equal to God", "True God from true God"? The first Council of Nicaea (AD 325) explained the term "homooúsios" ("of the same substance"). This philosophical term (which has been incorporated into the "Creed") serves, however, to highlight that Jesus is not "the Son" in a mythological or political sense (those being the most obvious interpretations given the context of the time), but it is meant to be understood quite literally.

—Yes, In God Himself there is an eternal dialogue between Father and Son, who are both truly one and the same God in the Holy Spirit.