

WHO IS JESUS

Bible Study Number 1

A Denver woman told her pastor of a recent experience that she felt was a sign of the times. She'd walked into a jewelry store looking for a necklace. "I'd like a gold cross," she said. The man behind the counter looked over the stock in the display case and said, "Do you want a plain one, or one with a little man on it?"

Wow!... There sure is a lot of misunderstanding about the Person of Christ today, isn't there? You'll hear all sorts of theories and explanations as to who this Person is. Some groups even claim He was just a good man or a prophet, others say He was "the archangel Michael" and incredibly still others claim He was "a god among many gods," the brother of the angel Lucifer before He became Satan.

To be sure, Jesus is unique. There has never been anyone like Him in the history of the world! Our calendars are even based on His birth. (B.C. meaning, Before Christ). As one writer aptly said about Jesus, "We stand far from the mark when we say that all the armies that have ever marched, all the navies that have been built and sailed, all the parliaments that have ever sat and all the kings that have ever reigned put together have not affected the life of man upon this earth as has that one solitary life.

Because of these things, the most important question you can ask yourself is this, "Who is Jesus?" Your life will be affected for all eternity by the way you answer that question! And that's what this lesson is all about, the identity of Jesus Christ. Before beginning, pause for a moment and ask God to help you learn the truth about Jesus from His Word.

WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT JESUS WILL AFFECT US FOREVER!

One time the Pharisees (hypocritical religious leaders) challenged Jesus and asked him some questions about Himself. In John chapter 8:12-59 we read about this confrontation.

What did Jesus claim to be in John 8:12? What does that mean to you?

If you knew me, you would know my _____ also.” (Verse 19)

What did Jesus promise to those who did not believe accurately about him? (Verse 24)

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| a. “Don’t worry, I love you anyway.” | d. “You’ll be O.K. Just love others.” |
| b. “God will forgive you.” | e. “It doesn’t really matter.” |
| c. “You will die in your sins.” | f. “Relax, nobody’s perfect.” |

What did Jesus set us free from? (Verses 31-34)

True or False. If God is our Father we will love Jesus. (Verse 42)

True or False. Jesus claimed to be alive before Abraham, who lived thousands of years before. (read Verses 54 – 59)

What does this mean?

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| a. Jesus was very old. | c. Jesus is God. |
| b. Jesus was in excellent health. | d. The Pharisees needed glasses. |

John 8:58 with Exodus 3:14

What name did Jesus apply to Himself? Who claimed to have this name?

II Corinthians 11:3-4

True or False. God warns us about believing in a different Jesus.

True or False. There are false Jesus’ running around today.

True or False. To know Jesus, we need to know who He is.

JESUS HAS TWO NATURES!

Philippians 2:5-7

Jesus had the form (nature) of...

Jesus took the very form (nature) of...

It was God Himself who came to earth on our behalf! He took upon Himself the form of a man in order to be able to suffer and die for us. Yet Jesus also had God's nature, whereby He could forgive us our sins and give us eternal life.

II Corinthians 8:9

Complete the verse.

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich...

JESUS HAS THE NATURE OF GOD!

When someone has the nature of God, He is God. He can do things only God can do. There is only one God by nature and Jesus has that nature. Read carefully the following from the book of Colossians.

Colossians 1:16-20

Place a check next to the statements that are true about Jesus.

- He created everything
- He created Himself
- He has all of God's fullness
- God was before Him
- He is supreme
- God created Him. He holds the universe together
- He is an angel
- He is before all things

John 5:18

Whenever Jesus claimed to be the Son of God (“calling God His own Father”)

He was claiming to be _____ to God.

Note: The Jews wanted to stone Jesus because to them this was considered “blasphemy”

- **saying the wrong things about God. For further study check out John 10:30-34 to see a similar situation.**

I John 5:20

Who is the true God and eternal life?

John 20:28-29

What did Thomas call Jesus and how did Jesus respond to Him?

Have you responded to and believed in Jesus in this same way?

JESUS HAS THE NATURE OF MAN!

It’s important to note that Jesus did not have a button on His back that He would press to make Him God or man. He is 100% God and 100% man at the same time! He voluntarily submitted to His Father when His “God attributes” would be in operation.

His humanity (human nature) is revealed to us in many ways. He became hungry, thirsty, and sometimes did not even know who touched Him! God certainly cannot fall asleep, yet Jesus did. God cannot die, yet Jesus did. God needed to become a man in order to suffer and die for us.

Let's see how well you can put these truths together. Next to the verse that follows, put the letter "G" for those that reveal God-nature of Jesus. Put a "H" by the ones that show us His human qualities.

Matthew 8:16 _____

Matthew 8:26-27 _____

Matthew 14:23 _____

Mark 2:9-12 _____

Mark 4:38 _____

Mark 4:39 _____

Mark 5:30 _____

Mark 6:56 _____

Mark 13:26 _____

Mark 14:34-35 _____

Mark 15:34 _____

Mark 16:6 _____

Luke 2:52 _____

Luke 4:2 _____

John 2:19-21 _____

John 4:6-7 _____

John 4:13-14 _____

John 11:25-26 _____

So here is our Lord Jesus! "The God-man, infinite and infant. Eternal, yet born of a woman. Supporting a universe, and yet needing to be carried in a mother's arms. Heir of all things, and yet the carpenter's despised son."

He was baptized as a man...
But He remitted sins as God...

He was tempted as a man...
But He conquered as God...

He hungered...
But He fed thousands...

He thirsted – but He cried...
If any man thirsts, let Him come to Me and drink...

He was wearied...
But He is the rest to them who are wearied and heavy-laden...

**He was heavy with sleep...
But He walked lightly over the sea...**

**He pays tribute, but...
He is the King of those who demanded it...**

**He prays...
But He hears prayer...**

**He weeps...
But He causes tears to cease...**

**He asks where Lazarus was laid...
But He raises Lazarus...**

**He is sold...
But redeems the world...**

**As a sheep He was led to the slaughter...
But He is the Shepherd...**

**He is bruised and wounded...
Yet heals every infirmity and disease...**

**He is given vinegar to drink...
but turned the water into wine...**

**He dies and is buried...
But raises and gives life...**

**Gregory of Nazianzus
THEOLOGICAL ORATION 379 AD**

Do you believe Jesus is God? If so, that's great! But just accepting this fact and answering yes to this question *will not* change your life.

Answering another question will...

Is He your God?