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## STUDY GUIDE

JESUS - GOD OR MAN?

*life  
groups*



# JESUS - GOD OR MAN?

## **Q. Was Jesus human or Divine?**

The mystery of Jesus being both fully human and fully God at the same time sits at the centre of our faith. That God Himself would love me so much that He would come to earth to suffer and die so that I could be in relationship with Him is the astounding difference of the Christian faith. Jesus does not protect us from an angry God – Jesus is God. Jesus is not a God that is removed from our lives and struggles – He is fully human and was “in all points tempted like us” (Hebrews 4:15) as well as suffering and death – as a human.

If Jesus was not God, He must have been insane – only an insane person would ask others to love Him more than anything else, be persecuted and lose their lives for His sake on the basis that He could give their lives back to them (Matthew 10:37-39).

We believe in...

(iii) The Lord Jesus Christ - His humanity, deity, virgin birth, sinless life, atoning death for the sins of the world, resurrection for our justification, ascension to the Father's right hand, and personal return to reign upon earth.

### **- COC statement of Faith**

'...in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man (became truly human - English Language Liturgical Commission translation)....

### **- The Nicene Creed**



# STUFF TO DO

## — HEAD —

<b>YOUNG</b>	Is Jesus God or Human? Why do you think this?
<b>GROWING</b>	Is Jesus equal with God?
<b>MATURE</b>	If Jesus is fully God and fully human what does this mean? Does Jesus being God mean you have one God or three (including the Holy spirit)?

## — HEART —

<b>YOUNG</b>	If Jesus is fully human how does that effect His understanding of our problems & struggles?
<b>GROWING</b>	How should you relate to Jesus (as God, or as a human friend)? Is Jesus still human?
<b>MATURE</b>	If Jesus is fully God does that mean God died on the Cross? <b>(Colossians 2:9)</b> How would your answer to this question effect how you see God?

## — HANDS —

<b>YOUNG</b>	Who should you pray to - God, Jesus or the Holy spirit?
<b>GROWING</b>	What do we mean when we say we want to become like Jesus to our communities?
<b>MATURE</b>	How would you explain the nature of Jesus to someone?



## STUFF TO DO

Spend some time praying together, asking Jesus to reveal to you more of the mystery and importance of Him being both God and human.

Pray for someone that you can share His amazing love with.

## PRAYER POINTS & COMING UP

**MOTHER'S DAY - SUNDAY 8TH MAY**

**BOOM JUNE!**

## STUFF TO THINK ABOUT

### **JESUS IS GOD**

*He is worshiped*  
(Matthew 2:2,11; 14:33)

*He was called God*  
(John 20:28; Hebrews 1:8)

*He was called son of God*  
(Mark 1:1)

*He is prayed to*  
(Acts 7:59)

*He is sinless*  
(1 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 4:15)

*He knows all things*  
(John 21:17)

*He gives eternal life*  
(John 10:28)

*All the fullness of deity dwells in Him*  
(Colossians 2:9)

### **JESUS IS MAN**

*He worshiped the Father*  
(John 17)

*He was called man*  
(Mark 15:39; John 19:5)

*He was called son of man*  
(John 9:35-37)

*He prayed to the Father*  
(John 17)

*He was tempted*  
(Matthew 4:1)

*He grew in wisdom*  
(Luke 2:52)

*He died*  
(Romans 5:8)

*He has a body of flesh and bones*  
(Luke 24:39)



“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### ***Phil 2:5-10***

From the beginning of the Church, the vast majority of Christians have accepted the humanity and divinity of Christ. This is evident from scripture, the documents of the early Church, and the martyrs. In early times, the Gnostics denied the humanity of Christ and the Arians (hence Arianism; He was excommunicated in 319 A.D.) denied the divinity of Christ.

### ***MEN AS GODS***

Around Jesus time it was not unusual for the head of a sect to proclaim that he was both man and God. The Caesars were proclaimed God both by themselves and the people who followed them. One of the dangers for Christians in the 1st century was that they were proclaiming Jesus as their God not Caesar – an act punishable by death. This being said, no other sect leader was able to demonstrate the miracles that Jesus did, hereby according to their standards proving He was the true messiah (Luke 7:20-22).

### ***DID GOD DIE ON THE CROSS?***

In Christian theology the concept that God himself came as Jesus and suffered and died on the cross is called Patristianism (the Father in the Passion) – as Jesus put it “the Father and I are one,” John 10:30, and is often associated with “Oneness Pentecostalism theology” (the theology that God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are essentially one). This theology is often confused with Modalism. Modalism says that there is one God who appears in 3 different modes – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and God chooses the appropriate “mode” to appear in. Modalism says that Jesus is not a true person, separate or pre-existent, but simply a methodology of God expressing Himself.

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<http://whitestonejournal.com/index.php/articles-index/38-articles/138-the-divinity-and-humanity-of-christ>







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