



Doctrine Discussion Guide | Week 5 | Jesus

Why are so many people drawn to superheroes? What does that say about our needs as common people who are limited and broken?

Jesus was the real superhero, who chose to live as human so that he could offer us what no fictional superhero could ever offer.

Read the CF Statement of Belief

We believe that Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is fully God and fully man.

Theological Truths

The virgin birth of Jesus Christ: The virgin birth is foundational to our faith. We will cover this in more detail during the discussion on the incarnation later in the series. *Read Isaiah 7:14 and Luke 1:35 as an overview of his virgin birth as taught in both testaments*

The hypostatic union: Jesus was fully God and fully man

Passages for Study

Philippians 2:5-11

5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

We are going to take a deep dive into the words that describe who Jesus is and what he did.

“Form”, Greek *morphe*, means “the nature or character of something, with emphasis upon both the internal and external form” (Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament)

“Grasped”, Greek *harpagmos*, means “that which is to be held on to forcibly” (Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament)

Note that though Jesus was fully God, he did not choose to forcibly hold on to the fullness of his divine power.



“Emptied”, Greek *kenosis*, “to take away the power or significance of something—‘to cause to lose power, to cause to be emptied of power, to make powerless.” (Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament)

Note: Jesus has always been fully God. He cannot turn it off. Jesus became fully human. Nothing will ever change that aspect of his being.

- What do these words tell us about Jesus' nature as revealed in this passage?
- What are attributes of Jesus's divinity that we see demonstrated in the Bible? What about his humanity?
- What are attributes of divinity that Jesus *did not* demonstrate during his time on earth? This gives you a sense of what he “emptied” himself of when he chose to become human.
- What did Jesus do in relationship to God the Father?
- What did the Father do for Jesus?
- What does this require from all humanity?

Hebrews 4:14-16

14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- What is true about Jesus with respect to sin?
- What is true about Jesus when we sin? What should we do when we sin or in need due to weakness?

Read the Big Idea:

We want you to know the good news of Jesus Christ so you can follow Him for the rest of your life.

- How does Jesus's divine power and sinlessness give you hope in the face of your own sin?
- Based on what you learned, why is Jesus a superhero unlike any other?
- How do these truths stir your heart to worship?

Read aloud Romans 8:1-4, 31-39 and finish in prayerful worship for what the God-man, Jesus, has done for us.