



DAILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



“THE GRASS WITHERS, THE FLOWER FADES,
BUT THE WORD OF OUR GOD WILL STAND FOREVER.”

ISAIAH 40:8

THIS READING PLAN IS FOR YOU!

Hey Gospel City, this week we are going to study the humanity of Christ. As J.I. Packer eloquently explains in his classic book *Knowing God*, the incarnation is the greatest mystery and biggest stumbling block in the Christian faith. One might think it would be the virgin birth, the atonement, or the resurrection. But any stumbling over these doctrines is simply the result of a failure to believe or fully grasp the reality that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Muslims, Jews, Jehovah’s Witnesses, and Mormons actually agree with orthodox Christianity on a lot of things, but the primary difference between their false religions and the one true gospel hinges on the belief that God became man. And as big of a stumbling block as this is to the world, this truth is so familiar to us Christians that we are in danger of becoming numb to the unfathomable mystery that it confronts us with. For God has revealed through His Word that He had no beginning. He does not hunger, thirst, sleep, or suffer, nor can He be tempted by sin because He is always infinitely satisfied in Himself. Nor can God die because He is the immortal, living God who has no end! But Jesus, the eternal Son of God, became the Son of Man by adding humanity to His deity and did all of these things so that we could dwell with Him and be glorified with Him. With that said, this week’s study might raise more questions than answers. But that is okay. Jesus is not a formula to memorize; He is our glorious and eternal God for whom we were created to behold. Therefore, as you ponder the discussion questions do not feel obligated to come up with clear-cut answers on the spot. Just spend time marveling and praying and asking God to help you think right thoughts about the mystery that has been revealed in the face of Jesus Christ.

THE NEW FORMAT WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

READ:

What you will read is living and active (Heb. 4:12). It has the power to revive your soul (Ps. 19:7). Its truth is worth more than fine gold (Ps. 19:10), and it will never fail or fade away (Is. 40:8). Go to it humbly, hear God speak, and be reminded of the Hope that you have in Jesus.

MEDITATE ON:

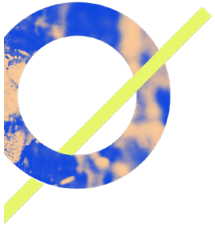
Simply reading the Word is like briskly walking by a warm fire on a cold night. But meditation is like sitting by the warm fire so that it lights up for your face and warms your bones. (Don Whitney, *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian life*). Therefore, pick a verse from each section to meditate on. What does it mean? What does it say about God? What does it say about you? What do you need to do to obey? You can pick any verse. But we will suggest a verse each time in case you have trouble picking one.

DISCUSS THIS:

We do not want to just be hearers of the Word; we want to be doers of the Word as well. Ask yourself and those around you how you can apply the text, how you can obey the text, and how you can bring glory to your Father in heaven.

PRAY THIS:

Pray to your Father that the Holy Spirit would empower the Word of Christ to become true in your hearts, your lives, this church, and this world. Pray the Word back to God. For he always answers us when we pray according to his will (1 John 5:14). And the best way to pray according to his will is to pray his Word!



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GOSPEL CITY | THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST



SUNDAY | DAY 1

READ: LUKE 1:26-38 + JOHN 1:14

MEDITATE ON:

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

JOHN 1:14

DISCUSS THIS:

God has declared that no one can see Him and live (Ex. 33:20). He is infinite and eternal, for He can hold the oceans in the palm of His hand (Is. 40:12). He cannot be contained by space or time, nor can He be served by anyone as if He ever needed anything (Acts 17:24-25). So how can God become man?! How can the one who upholds the universe be a helpless little baby?

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, help us to marvel at the incomprehensible mystery of the incarnation. Help us to behold what has been revealed. Help us to think right thoughts about Jesus. Forgive us for being numb to the most incredible miracle the world has ever known. For if you are God, surely you can create anything, surely you can part the Red sea, surely you can heal, and surely you can even raise people from the dead. But becoming a man? Help us to believe what has been a stumbling block for so many. Help us to behold Jesus, the God-man. Amen.

MONDAY | DAY 2

READ: MATTHEW 4:1-11 + JAMES 1:13 + HEBREWS 4:15

MEDITATE ON:

Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

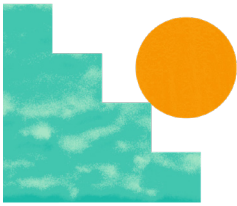
JAMES 1:13

DISCUSS THIS:

If God cannot be tempted, then how was Jesus tempted? And is it even possible for Jesus to sin? If not, then how can Hebrews say that “in every respect he was tempted as we are”? Was His temptation genuine?

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, thank you for Jesus. Help us to marvel at the fact that He who is holy became man so that He could sympathize with our weaknesses. We praise Him because He did not just face temptation as we do, but He actually resisted all of them fully for his entire life! Forgive us for giving into temptation so quickly. For even though He has been tempted as we are, we will never be tempted to the extent that He was because we do not know what it is like to resist to the point of shedding our blood. So thank you for Jesus, who did not sin, could not sin, and yet was tempted in every way that we are. Amen.



GOSPEL CITY | THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST

TUESDAY | DAY 3

READ: LUKE 2:41-52 + MARK 13:32 + 1 JOHN 3:19-20

MEDITATE ON:

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.”

LUKE 2:52

DISCUSS THIS:

God is all-knowing, and no one has ever been His counselor (Isaiah 40:13-14). He has never learned anything, nor has He ever grown in wisdom because He already knows everything (Psalm 139:1-18). So how does Jesus, who is God, grow in wisdom? And if God is one, how does Jesus not know something that the Father does?

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, thank you for Jesus. We marvel at His humility to step down from heaven and take on human flesh. Help us to think right thoughts about Him. Help us to marvel at the fact that Jesus can be 100% God and 100% man at the same time. For we know that Jesus is God, and therefore we know that He knows everything. Yet we know that He emptied Himself, took on flesh and became like a man so that He could hunger, thirst, suffer and die for our sins. We praise you Father. Thank you for Jesus. Amen.

WEDNESDAY | DAY 4

READ: LUKE 4:16-21 + MATTHEW 12:22-32 + ACTS 2:22-24

MEDITATE ON:

“But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.”

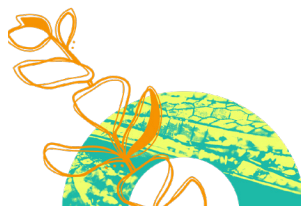
MATTHEW 12:28

DISCUSS THIS:

If Jesus is God, why did He not perform His miracles through His deity? Why did the Holy Spirit come upon Him and perform them through His humanity? (Hint: Miracles in the Bible are never random or pointless. They always act as a “sign” to confirm the word that is being revealed. So what “word” do Jesus’ miracles confirm, and why might it be significant that this word/revelation is being fulfilled through a man (or “Son of Man”)?)

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, thank you for confirming through your Holy Spirit that Jesus is the promised Messiah. Thank you for revealing to us that Jesus is the Son of Man whom the Ancient of Days will give glory and dominion. Thank you for revealing to us that Jesus is the Son of David who will sit on David’s throne forever and ever. And thank you for revealing to us that this Jesus is God incarnate. Help us to think right thoughts about Him and behold who He is; both God and man. Amen.





GOSPEL CITY | THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST



THURSDAY | DAY 5

READ: JOHN 17:1-26

MEDITATE ON:

“And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

v3

DISCUSS THIS:

If Jesus is God, then who is He praying to? Asking questions like this is so important because, as v3 reveals, eternity will consist of contemplating the Triune nature of God. So as you go through the prayer carefully follow along with the pronouns, marvel at the fact that our God is three in one, and let it give you a taste of eternity.

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, help us to think right thoughts about you. Thank you for revealing to us through your word that you are three in one. Help us to marvel at this. Help us to contemplate it. And help us to taste the mystery in a way that leads to more knowledge of who you are so that we can worship you in Spirit and in Truth. Sanctify us in your truth. Shape our thoughts about you through your Word. And love us with the love that you love your Son. Amen.

FRIDAY | DAY 6

READ: MARK 15:21-47 + 1 TIMOTHY 6:15-16

MEDITATE ON:

“Who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see.
To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.”

1 TIMOTHY 6:16

DISCUSS THIS:

God is the Alpha and Omega. He is infinite in power and eternal in nature. He has no beginning and He will have no end. Therefore, if God is immortal, then how did Jesus die on the cross?

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, we know that the death of a mere man could not possibly pay for the sins of the world. But we also know that you cannot die, and we praise you for that! So help us to think right thoughts about Jesus, the eternal Son of God, who took on flesh and died on the cross. Thank you for revealing to us that Jesus really is God and that He really did die. Help us to marvel at the God-man and have life in His name. Amen.



SATURDAY | DAY 7

READ: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11 + HEBREWS 2:8-18

MEDITATE ON:

“but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.”

PHILIPPIANS 2:7

DISCUSS THIS:

When Paul says Jesus “emptied” Himself he does not mean that Jesus lost any of His deity. Rather, in a form of subtraction by addition, He covered His deity with human flesh in order to become God and man. How might this truth help you ponder the discussion questions from this week? (For further study on the humanity of Christ see *The Man Christ Jesus* by Bruce Ware)

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, thank you for Jesus who took on flesh, emptied Himself, and took on the form of a servant. Help us to marvel at the fact that the King of kings stepped down from heaven and became a man. Help us to marvel at the fact that He who is in infinite in power became a baby. Help us to marvel at the fact that He who never hungered, thirsted, or suffered became a man so that He could sympathize with our weaknesses. And help us to marvel at the fact that the giver of life took on flesh so that He could lay down His life and give us life through belief in His name. Amen.

