
The Common Thread: There is a Holy God who lovingly pursues a relationship with his creation, Man.

Big Picture

- Born of a virgin (Human)
- Baptized (Identified with Sinful Humanity)
- Led by the Spirit (Spirit-empowered)
- Tempted (Victorious over temptation/sinless life)
- Miracles (affirming Jesus' deity and power)
- Jesus' Calling: I am the Way, the Truth and the Life—to the Father and to restoration
- God is a loving father who desires restoration with his children

Scene 1 – The Birth of Jesus

Matthew 1-2, Luke 1-2

God fulfills his covenant and prophecy with Emmanuel God with us.

Scene 2- Jesus Baptism

Matthew 3; Mark 1; Luke 3; John 1

Public Example Shows Relationship

Life Group Questions

For week of February 23rd

My Story

Because He was fully human, Jesus went through the normal growth process every healthy human being goes through – He grew physically, intellectually, spiritually, and relationally. Growing up, in which of these areas did growth come easiest for you? Which was the hardest?

How we live our lives and the decisions we make daily can significantly affect our ability to serve in God's kingdom. Which of the statements below would you say best matches your chief roadblock to serving?

- Moving too fast to notice opportunities to serve
- Packing too much into my schedule
- Trying to respond to every need
- Putting off getting started
- Unwillingness to flex my schedule and/or leisure time

Going Deeper

Jesus asked His followers, "Who do you say I am?" Put yourself in the story found in Mark 8:27-30 and imagine Jesus Himself asking you the same question. Read through the following verses, take some notes, explore around your Bible, and write your answer to Jesus' question below.

Colossians 1:15-20

Hebrews 1:1-8

Isaiah 7:14

Isaiah 9:6

Matthew 1:21-23

John 6:35-40

John 10:7-18

John 11:25-26

John 14:1-7

John 15:1-8

Who do you say Jesus is?

If you are a follower who admits Jesus is in the driver's seat, how does your life show it?

The Pharisees wanted Jesus to perform miracles for them to see, and yet their hearts were far from following Jesus. Instead of showing them a miracle, Jesus simply left. Read Matthew 15:7-9 and Matthew 23:25-28 for reactions Jesus had to some of these religious leaders.

What can we learn from this?

In Matthew 20:28, Jesus gave a short description of His purpose when He told his disciples that He "did not come to be served, but to serve." Since we're called to emulate Jesus, it's no surprise that we share a similar calling to serve others. What can you learn from the following verses about what it means to serve God?

Romans 12:4-8

Ephesians 4:11-13

1 Peter 4:10-11

Can you think of any ways serving others can benefit us or help us grow as Christians?

Scene 3 – Jesus' Temptation

How to beat temptation

1. Know the Story.
2. Trust the Father to provide, not your own ability.
3. Trust God and His relationship you know; you don't have to be in control.
4. Remember only God is worthy of worship, not yourself or other things.

Scene 4- Miracles

Luke 3, John 1, Mark 2-5

Miracles Reveal

- Jesus identity
- Jesus authority
- Power over physical life
- Point people to the truth

Scene 5- Kingdom

Matthew 5, 7, 10, 13, 18–20; Mark 3–6, 10, 13; Luke 6, 8-10, 12-15, 17; John 3

Kingdom is:

- From God
- Great value
- Worth searching for
- For everyone
- Unstoppable
- Personal

(Parts of study adapted from story of God, Soma. used by permission)