

COURSE 1 - 2025  
*Basic Discipleship*

*The*  
**JOURNEY**  
STEP TWO



# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

We are so glad you're here! As you step into this journey of discipleship, know that you are entering a path designed to deepen your relationship with God and build a firm biblical foundation. This material is meant to guide you, no matter where you are on your faith journey. The tools and lessons you'll find here are adaptable to many settings—whether you're meeting one-on-one, gathering with a small group, or sharing in a larger community. It can be simplified to nurture the hearts of youth and children or enriched to challenge and inspire mature believers to grow even further.

*Discipleship is a journey, not a race.*

Our prayer is that this journey will help you engage with Scripture, build meaningful relationships, and discover how God is working in and through your life. Let's take this next step together with faith and intentionality as we grow closer to Him. Trust the process of growth and transformation that occurs over time as you walk with God.



# 02 WHO IS JESUS?

Christianity is Christ. The entire Biblical message of salvation revolves around and rests upon Jesus Christ. He alone makes the gospel of grace possible. He alone has delivered us from sin's penalty. He alone has conquered death.



# I. JESUS ON EARTH

JESUS WAS  
FULLY HUMAN.

While on earth, Jesus was fully human. He was born from a woman’s womb and had a fully human body, mind, and soul. He had physical needs (sleep, hunger, and thirst) and felt pain, emotion, and temptation in the same way we all do, yet He never sinned.

If Jesus wasn’t fully human, He could not perform the work necessary to save us from our sins. Only a person with a real human body, mind, and soul could sacrifice His life, suffer death, and be raised bodily from the dead. Jesus’ humanness allows Him to take our place and suffer the consequences of sin for us.

**JOHN 1:14** | *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

**HEBREWS 2:17** | *“For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.”*

*Additional  
Scripture  
References*

**PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8**

**1 TIMOTHY 3:16**

**MATTHEW 1:18**

**LUKE 2:7**

**LUKE 2:40;52**

**MATTHEW 16:21**

**MARK 6:3**

**JOHN 11:5**

**MATTHEW 14:14**

**MARK 3:5**

**JOHN 15:11**

**JOHN 12:27**

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:21**

**1 CORINTHIANS 15:21**

**HEBREWS 2:14**

**HEBREWS 4:14-16**

**1 TIMOTHY 2:5**

**1 JOHN 4:2**



**JESUS WAS FULLY  
GOD.**

In the Bible, Jesus is called “the Son of God,” “Son of Man,” “the Messiah,” “Lord,” “Savior,” and more. Jesus Himself claimed His own divinity by saying things such as, “I and the Father are one,” and “Before Abraham was, I am,” and “I am the way, the truth, and the life.” Jesus’ enemies wanted to kill Him for the alleged blasphemy of claiming to be God.

Jesus backed up His claims with many different miracles. Furthermore Jesus’ resurrection from the dead is the ultimate proof that He is God. The bones of every other religious leader in history are still in the ground, but where can we find the bones of Jesus? Nowhere! He is risen, He has defeated the grave, and only God has the power to defeat death.

**JOHN 10:30-31** | *“I and the Father are one. Again his Jewish opponents picked up stones to stone him,”*

**COLOSSIANS 2:9** | *“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,”*

*Additional  
Scripture  
References*

**MATTHEW 26:63-64**

**JOHN 14:6**

**DANIEL 7:13**

**JOHN 8:58**

**MARK 4:39**

**JOHN 20:27-28**

**MATTHEW 16:16**

**PSALM 16:10**

**ACTS 1:3**

**MATTHEW 9:6**

**ISAIAH 53**

**1 CORINTHIANS 15:7**

**JESUS WAS  
SINLESS.**

The Bible repeatedly tells us that Jesus was without sin. This means that He never did anything against God’s will — in His thoughts, His words, or His actions. When Jesus asked his enemies what charges they had against Him, they had no sin with which to accuse Him.

Importantly, Jesus’ main purpose for coming to earth was not to provide us with a great example of how to live a sinless life. His main purpose in coming to earth was to become an acceptable sacrifice for our sins on the cross (which required Him to be sinless). He was “a lamb without blemish or defect.”

**1 PETER 2:22** | *“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”*

**HEBREWS 4:15** | *“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.”*

*Additional  
Scripture  
References*

**JOHN 8:46**

**1 PETER 1:18-19**

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:21**

**HEBREWS 9:14**

**1 JOHN 3:5**

**JAMES 2:10**

**MATTHEW 27:23**

# NOTES

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## II. JESUS' RELATIONSHIP TO GOD THE FATHER

### JESUS IS EQUAL TO GOD THE FATHER

He is fully God, just as God the Father is fully God. Jesus is God in the same way that God the Father is God, and they share the same essence. Jesus shares all of the same divine attributes as God the Father, including omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence.

Jesus is not a created being; he is eternal and uncreated.

### JESUS IS ONE WITH THE FATHER YET ALSO DISTINCT FROM THE FATHER

God is One, yet He is also Three. This is called the Trinity. This concept is that God is three persons who share one essence (or substance). Jesus is "God the Son."

**DEUTERONOMY 6:4** | *"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one."*

**MATTHEW 3:16-17** | *"As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."*

#### *Additional Scripture References*

1 CORINTHIANS 8:4

1 TIMOTHY 1:17

ISAIAH 45:5

GENESIS 1:26

GENESIS 3:22

MATTHEW 28:19

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-6

1 PETER 1:2

ROMANS 15:30

2 CORINTHIANS 1:21-22

JUDE 20-21

MATTHEW 3:16-17

JOHN 8:58-59

JOHN 10:30

JOHN 10:37-38



### III. TITLES OF JESUS

In the Bible, Jesus is given literally dozens of names and titles. For instance, Jesus' very name means "God saves." Here are 7 other titles of Jesus that are helpful to know.

#### LORD

This simply means that Jesus is over all things, and the title symbolizes authority, power, and control. If Jesus is your Lord, He is now in charge of your life. (Luke 2:11; Romans 10:9)

#### SON OF MAN

This is Jesus' favorite way of referring to Himself in the Gospels. He emphasized both His humanity and His divinity with this title. Daniel 7 refers to the Son of Man as the coming Messiah, who had both human and divine characteristics. (Matthew 8:20; Mark 2:10)

#### I AM

In the Gospels Jesus often refers to Himself as "I Am," which refers back to the Old Testament name God gives Himself. Jesus is equating Himself with God. These "I Am" statements incited the Jewish authorities to want to kill Jesus for blasphemy. (John 8:58; Mark 14:62)

#### THE WORD

The Word (or Logos in the Greek) talks about how Jesus both was God and was with God in eternity past. In John 1, where Jesus is referred to as "The Word," Jesus is revealed as the Creator of the universe. (John 1:1; Revelation 19:13)

#### CHRIST OR MESSIAH

"Christ" is the Greek word and "Messiah" is the Hebrew word for "Anointed One." When one was anointed with oil in Bible times it indicated that person would be king. The Messiah in the Old Testament was to be a righteous king from the line of David who would bring a time of perfect peace and prosperity. (Matthew 16:16; John 1:41)

#### IMMANUEL

This title literally means "God with us." This title helps us understand that God the Son came from Heaven and lived among us, both fully human and fully God. (Matthew 1:23; Isaiah 7:14)

#### LAMB OF GOD

In the Old Testament, a perfect lamb was chosen and sacrificed for the sin of the people for a period of time. In the New Testament, Jesus is referred to as the Lamb of God because on the cross He became the perfect sacrifice for all, for all time. (John 1:29; John 1:36)





## IV. COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS OF JESUS

Throughout history, there have been many misunderstandings about Jesus and His nature. To misunderstand Jesus is to misunderstand the Gospel itself.

### MISUNDERSTANDING:

#### JESUS DID NOT HAVE A REAL HUMAN BODY, SOUL, OR MIND

Some have mistakenly taught that Jesus only appeared to have a physical body, a human soul, and a human mind. This is very clearly contradicted in the Bible. Without a complete and genuine human nature Jesus could not be a true Savior. Whatever aspect of humanity Jesus did not have could not be redeemed in us by Jesus.

**LUKE 24:39** | *“Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”*

**HEBREWS 2:17** | *“For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.”*





**MISUNDERSTANDING:**

**BELIEVING JESUS IS A GOOD  
TEACHER (OR A PROPHET),  
BUT NOT GOD**

Jesus continually claimed to be God, and a good teacher/prophet cannot constantly deceive others about who He is. In fact, the Old Testament said that prophets must speak accurately for God or be put to death. Therefore, either Jesus was a prophet AND God as well (His claims were true), or He wasn't a prophet or good teacher at all.

**JOHN 10:30** | *"I and the Father are one."*

**DEUTERONOMY 18:20** | *"But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."*

**HEBREWS 6:18** | *"God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged."*



## MISUNDERSTANDING:

### **BELIEVING JESUS IS MORE HUMAN THAN DIVINE (OR VICE-VERSA)**

Some say Jesus began as merely a man; but because of His exemplary life God honored Him by adopting Him as His own Son, thus bestowing a special measure of power and “divinity” upon Him (at his baptism or at His resurrection). However this view denies that God the Father and God the Son share the same essence, it denies that Christ was pre-existent, and it makes the Son inferior in every way to the Father. None of this is what the Bible teaches. Jesus was fully God AND fully man at the same time.

**COLOSSIANS 2:9** | *“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,”*

**JOHN 1:1** | *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”*

## MISUNDERSTANDING:

### BELIEVING GOD CREATED JESUS

This denies Jesus' infinite past with God and also denies His equality with the Father in nature and essence. The Bible clearly teaches that Christ was preexistent with the Father and is indeed one with the Father.

**JOHN 1:1** | *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*

**JOHN 8:58** | *"Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"*

**JOHN 10:30** | *"I and the Father are one."*

*Want to dive deeper into your journey?*

Scan the QR code for an in-depth exploration of Step 2: Who Is Jesus?



*NOTE: All verses are quoted from the NIV translation. The Bible remains the ultimate authority for understanding who God is.*

*For more commentary on who Jesus is, see Dr. Jack Cottrell's "The Faith Once for All" particularly chapters 13 and 14. We're grateful to have a grounding for many of the above thoughts and insights from not only this work, but from many others.*

# NOTES

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# BASIC DISCIPLESHIP STEP TWO

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Ice Breaker Questions

Have you thought any more about God and who the Bible says He is from Step 1?

Any questions on that?

Growing up, who was Jesus to you? How did these ideas change as you got older?

#### **Question 1** - *Jesus on Earth*

Which of these is harder for you to wrap your mind around, and why: Jesus being fully human or Jesus being fully God?

#### **Question 2** - *Jesus was Sinless*

How hard is it to imagine someone who lived their whole 33-year life without ever sinning? Why is being tempted not the same thing as sinning?

#### **Question 3** - *Jesus is Equal to the Father*

Why do you think some people don't like the idea that Jesus is equal to God the Father?

#### **Question 4** - *Jesus is One with the Father Yet Also Distinct from the Father*

Do you grasp the concept of the Trinity? Does thinking about God in this way make your head spin?

#### **Question 5** - *Titles of Jesus*

Which of these titles (if any) were you already familiar with, and which ones (if any) were newer to you? Why do you think Jesus was known by so many different names and titles?

#### **Question 6** - *Lord*

What would it look like in our lives if Jesus were Lord 100%? Is that even possible? How do we allow Him to become more and more Lord of our lives as time goes by?

#### **Question 7** - *Common Misunderstanding of Jesus*

Why do you think there's been so many different misunderstandings about Jesus over the years...and still today?

#### **Question 8** - *Misunderstanding: Believing Jesus is a Good Teacher, but not God*

What would it mean if Jesus were only a good teacher or prophet (as many atheists and Muslims believe) instead of being God as well?

#### **Question 9**

What questions do you have about who Jesus was?



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