

# Jesus – God and Man

## The Journey Toward Understanding

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WEEK	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
November 2	“The Apostles’ Teaching”	What did the Apostles teach about Jesus? We’ll look at the biblical teaching about Jesus as God and Man. We’ll also talk about how the early church decided who to take as an authority in matters of faith.
November 9	“The Early Problems”	Read the Introduction and Chapter 1. Even while the Apostles were still teaching, movements developed on the fringes on Christianity that began to claim either that Jesus wasn’t really God, or that He wasn’t really a man. We’ll see how the leaders of the early church remained faithful to the Apostles’ teaching.
November 16	“Behold the Man”	Read Chapter 2. The biggest threat to the unity of the early church was a movement called “Gnosticism” which, among other things, refused to believe that Jesus was really a flesh-and-blood human being. We’ll look at how Christians began to find a way to emphasize the key belief that Jesus was really “like us in every way.”
November 23	“Very God of Very God”	Read Chapter 3. When a man named Arius began to attract followers by claiming that Jesus wasn’t really God, the church responded with overwhelming solidarity, declaring at the Council of Nicea that Christ is “very God of very God.”
November 30	“God and Man”	Read Chapter 4. We’ll talk about the Nicene Creed and some of the men who contributed to it. We’ll also see how, in an effort to emphasize the deity of Christ, some went too far and ended up denying His humanity!
December 7	“One and the Same Lord Jesus Christ”	Read Chapter 5. Once the questions of divinity and humanity were settled, people still found ways to misrepresent biblical teaching by trying to explain <i>how</i> the humanity and divinity relate in Jesus.
December 14	“The Hypostatic Union”	Read selections from Chapter 6 (TBA) We’ll focus on the union of the human and divine in Jesus Christ, and we’ll see why it makes such a difference if Jesus is to be the Savior that the New Testament describes Him to be.
December 21	“Two Natures in One Person”	Read the Epilogue, selections from Chapter 6 (TBA) Just in time for Christmas! We’ll look at the way the church has been committed to the full humanity and the full divinity of Christ – and why it makes such a difference “for us and for our salvation.”