



# THE PERSON OF CHRIST

## WORKSHEET - EPISODE 7

### *Whose Son? Son of Man or Son of God?*

#### Son of God, Son of Man

1. Jesus is repeatedly identified as the [Son of Man](#) in the New Testament, yet he is also identified as the [Son of God](#).

- The essential meaning of calling Jesus Christ both the Son of Man and the Son of God is that he is both fully human and fully God.
- He is not, however, two persons or two Sons: he is one person, the person of the Son and Word of God, who takes flesh from the Virgin.
- He clothes himself in our human nature in order to heal our humanity, and more than that, to deify it with the divine life he shares with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

#### He becomes the Son of Man to make us children of God

1. As we state in [the Creed](#), Christ's coming is "for us and for our salvation."

- The whole point of the Incarnation is our salvation. Moreover, in taking our humanity to himself, he does not abolish or dissolve it into his divinity. He remains one person "in two natures without confusion, without change, without division, without separation" ([Chalcedonian Definition](#), AD 451) The union of divinity and humanity in his person is real and complete, but it is a union that retains the natural integrity of humanity and divinity.
- This has powerful implications for what it means to be saved. To be saved is to be joined to God through the humanity of the Son of God. In that union we truly receive eternal life by grace, the beginningless life of God, but at the same time we remain forever human. If we are saved, we will never be divided or separated from God, yet we likewise will never be confused, dissolved, or changed into something else. This follows the pattern of Christ's own identity, since as he declares, "where I am, there shall also my servant be" ([John 12:26](#)).

#### Reflection & Discussion

1. Can we do more to connect the dogmas of our faith with our spiritual life? How does declaring Christ to be both the Son of God and the Son of Man, "one person in two natures," help us to do that?
2. If we are really called to become children of God, even in some sense "gods," how should that impact our approach to life and salvation?

#### Further reading

1. [Hebrews 1-2](#)

2. [St Athanasius the Great, On the Incarnation \(SVS Press, 2012\)](#)