

Discussion Questions

- Why did Jesus need to become fully man?
- Why do you think so many people have refused to believe Jesus is fully God and fully man in one person?
- Spend some time meditating on Jesus' incarnation. Now worship God for this miracle.

Day 5 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Have you thought about meeting Jesus in heaven? What about in the New Heavens and New Earth? Sometimes we might be tempted to think about Jesus as someone who was a man but is now just a spirit in heaven. This is not so! He ascended into heaven in his new resurrected body. When we meet with Jesus after this life, we will see Him as a man with a body! The catechism answer says Jesus *was and continueth to be God and man in two distinct natures, and one person forever*. The Son of God has always been God. He hasn't always been man. He became man when he took on flesh in the incarnation. Yet, from now on He will always be both God and man. Jesus will always have our nature, for all of eternity. We will be able to relate to him as our elder brother and our king. This is important to realize because when we are resurrected, we will be like him. 1 Cor 15:48-49 *As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. Phil 3:21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body...*

Discussion Questions

- How does it make you feel to know Jesus will always be a human like us?
- Only those who believe in Jesus will be blessed to live with him forever. Is that you?

Baptist Catechism

Family Worship Guide



West Oaks Baptist Church

(in preparation for Sunday, February 18th, 2024)

Baptist Catechism Question #24

Q: Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

A: *The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ; who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was and continueth to be God and man in two distinct natures, and one person forever.*

Suggested Memory Verse

Acts 4:12 *And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. (ESV)*

Day 1 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

There is an account in the Old Testament where the Israelites faced their enemies, the Philistines, on a great battlefield. The Philistines were led by the giant warrior named Goliath. Day after day Goliath bellowed out his challenge to the people of God. Not one of them was brave enough to face this giant. They needed a warrior to fight for them. They needed a savior. Eventually, God provided a savior in the person of the young man David. We all are in need of a savior. The world looks for saviors in sports stars, movie actors, politicians, or war heroes. None of these people can offer true salvation. The Bible declares that Jesus is the only one who can save His people. Acts 4:12 *And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.* What do we need salvation from? Ultimately, we need to be saved from our sins. We deserve death because we have sinned against God. This is a debt we could never fully pay ourselves. Another sinful human could never pay for us. Psalm 49:7 *Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life.* The Psalm goes on to tell us who can pay our debt. It is God alone. Psalm 49:15 *But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,* Jesus Christ, the God-man, is the Redeemer who paid once for all for the sins of His people.

Discussion Question

- Who are some saviors that the people of the world trust in?
- Who do you tend to look to for safety, comfort, and protection?
- Why is Jesus the only perfect Savior for sinners?

Day 2 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Our question this week identifies Jesus as the only Savior. Who does he save? He is the only savior of *the elect*. The elect are the ones God chooses. The Bible tells us that God chose who he would save before He created anything. Ephesians 1:4 *he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.* If you are a believer in Jesus, it is because he chose to save you! We might wonder why he made the choice to save us. Some have thought that Jesus saved them because they were particularly good people. No! Romans 5:8 *but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* Some have thought God saved them because they made the choice to believe in Him. But, the Bible says God made that decision before *the foundation of the world*. God didn't choose to save you based on anything you had done, but simply out of His good pleasure. He decided to save his people even when they were sinners and didn't deserve saving. He did this in order to show the depths of His mercy and love. Jesus uses the picture of a shepherd taking care of his sheep. John 10:11 *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep* Jesus laid down His life on the cross for His sheep, his people.

Discussion Questions

- If God decided to save you before He ever made you, why did He do it?
- Is there any room for boasting that God saved you and not others? Why or why not?
- How do you know if you are elect?

Day 3 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

In order for Jesus to be the redeemer of His people, he had to meet 2 qualifications. He had to be a human. He could not represent us without being like us. Jesus was human. But he had to be more than human. Jesus also had to be divine. That is exactly who Jesus declared himself to be. Before the Son of God ever took on our flesh and became human, He was always God. This is what we read at the beginning of John's gospel. John 1:1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* Jesus is the Logos, or Word, that is both with God and is God. We have an indication here of the reality of the Trinity. God is one in nature, three in person; Father, Son (or Word), and Spirit. Jesus' identity as God came up throughout his ministry. He showed himself to be God when he forgave sins, something only God can do. He claimed himself to be God when he used the divine name Yahweh, or I AM. John 8:58 *Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."* Jesus showed himself to be God when he accepted the worship of his disciples. He is worthy of our worship today!

Discussion Questions

- Why is it important that Jesus is fully God?
- If Jesus is God, what do you owe him?
- Is Jesus your God?

Day 4 – Review Q&A and recite memory verse

Jesus was the Son of God from eternity past. In order to become our redeemer, He did something wonderful and mysterious. The Son of God became one of us. He became a human. The Bible describes it this way. John 1:14 *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.* We hear this often enough that we sometimes forget to stop and consider the miracle involved. God, who is eternal, unchangeable, impassible, and limitless, took on our nature. He took on a human nature that is created, changeable, subject to pain, weak, and limited. How could the eternal God do such a thing? The answer is beyond our comprehension! Many people have struggled to understand the truth that in the incarnation Jesus came to have two distinct natures in one person. He is fully God and fully man. The Chalcedonian definition says it this way: "[He is] one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation." While we can't understand this, we can marvel that God would do such a thing to save us from our sins!