

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

Jesus emptied himself of the divine to show us what it is to be human.

SCRIPTURE

Philippians 2:1-11

POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND

1. When Jesus walked on this earth, he didn't stop being divine; he never stopped being God, but he also became fully human.
2. Jesus had certain privileges, powers, and prerogatives. As God, Jesus has a status, a standing, a station that is above all others. Jesus is worthy of all that, yet he chose not to use all that for his advantage.
3. Because Jesus became fully human, he understands when you're lonely, grateful, anxious, joyful, fearful, hopeful. You name it, Jesus understands. He did not live above the fray of the realities of human existence, as Eugene Peterson paraphrased the miracle of the incarnation in John 1:14: "The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood." Jesus knows what it is like to walk in your shoes, and that means he is someone you can go to in every situation at every stage of your life. Jesus understands.
4. Because Jesus is fully human, he is the model for us of what it looks like to grow to maturity spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and physically. Jesus can also show us how to resist all kinds of temptations that come at us in our daily lives. We often talk about how in his divinity, Jesus reveals what God is like, and that's true, but in his humanity, Jesus also reveals what it means to be human. When we follow Jesus as his apprentices, learning to walk in his ways, he will teach us, too, to be fully human.

HELPFUL QUOTES

"The Almighty God chose to become a vulnerable, weak, fully-dependent newborn who didn't even know how to walk, talk, or do basic addition or subtraction!" -Greg Haugh, Fully Human

"It's almost as though a lot of Christians think of Jesus as God wearing a human mask. He's sort of faking it, pretending to be human. He pretends to perspire, his stomach only appears to gurgle because, of course, he's not really hungry. In fact, he doesn't need to eat. So Jesus is the bionic Son of God who isn't really human." -Craig Evans

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your faith journey?
3. Have you considered getting baptized? communitychristian.org/baptism
4. Who have you been able to B.L.E.S.S.?