

8. JESUS: Our Spiritual Model

Has anyone ever told you they would believe in God if He would just **appear** to them? The fact is, *God has already revealed Himself to mankind* through the life of one man who lived two thousand years ago.

“The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being,” *Hebrews 1:3*

If you really want to see what God is like, then take a good look at Jesus Christ His Son!

Jesus the Son of God

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made... and the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us..”

John 1:1-3, 14

- ✓ Circle who the Word is identified as.
- ✓ Underline what the Word has done to confirm His identity.

The Word became a man and lived among us as the only begotten Son, *Jesus Christ!*

“He (*Jesus*) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ...For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form,”

Colossians 1:15 & 2:9

- ✓ Frame each description of Christ in *Colossians 1:15 & 2:9*.

Christ is the visible representation of the *invisible* God. *In the person of Christ, God walked the earth in physical form!*

Jesus the Son of Man

5 “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:
6 Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,
7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.”

Philippians 2:5-7

- ✓ Circle who Christ is in verse 6.
- ✓ Underline what Christ did and what He became in verse 7.

Though Christ was truly God, He *willingly* laid aside His right to Deity and took upon Himself humanity, even the nature of a servant. **The Son of God was also the Son of Man.**

**“If Christ be God and died for me,
there is nothing too great that I would do for Him!”
C.T. Studd**

► How does Isaiah 44:24 further confirm that Jesus is God the Creator? See also Colossians 1:15-16.

 John 1:18
John 5:18

 Romans 8:3
John 5:17-18

► How does Jesus' willingness to become a servant/man affect the way we should live our lives? What does this act teach you about God? What does it indicate how God views mankind?

Jesus ~ Our Example to Live ...

▶ ... Compassionate Lives

17 For this reason he (*Jesus*) had to be made like his brothers 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.

18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Hebrews 2:17-18

- ✓ Frame the extent to which Christ was made “*like his brothers*”.
- ✓ Underline the reason He was made in this way (*verse 17*).
- ✓ Underline the result of Christ’s suffering (*verse 18*).

God the Son is able to understand *by experience* our own pain, which makes Him **a Compassionate Helper** in times of need.

▶ ... Obedient Lives

“For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me.”

John 6:38

- ✓ Underline the reason Christ “*came down from heaven*”.

“For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.”

John 12:49

- ✓ Underline what Christ did not do.
- ✓ Frame how He obeyed God.

It is incredible to consider that Christ’s obedience extended to *what He said* and even *how He said it*.

▶ ... Surrendered Lives

“Jesus gave them this answer: “I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.”

John 5:19

- ✓ Circle the word that describes what Christ was able to do by Himself.
- ✓ Underline what Christ is able to do.
- ✓ Frame Christ’s relationship with the Father.

While on earth, Christ gave up His independence and *completely surrendered His Life to God*. In short, *His Life was an exact representation of God’s will*.

▶ ... Spirit Filled Lives

“how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.”

Acts 10:38

- ✓ Underline the results of Jesus’ anointing with the “*Holy Spirit and power*”.

We, as Christians, are also anointed with God’s Spirit and power *in order to go around “doing good” as Jesus did!*

▶ What is the significance of the truth that Christ was made like us “in every way”? Does this imply that we are able to live like Him in “every way”? Why or why not?



John 17:4
John 5:19

▶ In light of John 12:49, what does James 3:2 teach us about Christ? How are we to know what God wants us to say and do?

▶ If Christ was so dependent upon God the Father, what does that say about our own lives? What would happen if all Christians lived such surrendered lives to God as Christ did? Why don’t we?

► ... Prayerful Lives

“During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.” *Hebrews 5:7*

- ✓ Underline how Christ prayed while on earth.

Notice the intensity of Christ’s prayer life. **Jesus’ prayers were real, personal and passionate. Can the same be said of ours?**

► ... Humble Lives

“And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross.” *Philippians 2:8*

- ✓ Circle who humbled Christ according to *Philippians 2:8*.
- ✓ Underline how Christ’s humility was expressed through his life.

Note that Christ “humbled Himself”. Others can humiliate us, but only we can humble ourselves, and there is a difference! If you are not a humble person, you need only to look in the mirror to see who’s preventing you.

► ... Servant Lives

“When the sun was setting, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them.” *Luke 4:40*

- ✓ Underline who was brought to Jesus.
- ✓ Underline what Jesus did with the people.

Christ’s life exemplified service to those in need around Him. What is amazing about His life is that **He never turned people away! Do we?**

► ... Confident Lives

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Hebrews 12:2

- ✓ Circle what enabled Christ to endure the suffering of the cross.

When Christ looked at the cross, He saw the “joy” that would result and the *victory* that would be His in the end. **We too must look through our problems to the triumph that God can, and will, provide on the other side!**

Christ ~ Worthy of Praise!

“Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”
Philippians 2:9-11



Mark 1:35; 14:35

Application Points

Study the Life and Teachings of Christ in the Gospels and Research the following:

- What was important to Him?
- What was uppermost in His teachings?
- How did He relate to various people?
- How did He relate to His family?
- How did He minister to others?
- How did He honor God?

Affirmation

1. In Christ I am able to see the One True Invisible God.
2. As Christ’s disciple, I will live...
 - ... a Compassionate Life!
 - ... an Obedient Life!
 - ... a Surrendered Life!
 - ... a Spirit Filled Life!
 - ... a Prayerful Life!
 - ... a Humble Life!
 - ... a Servant Life!
 - ... a Confident Life!

A Prayer

“Lord Jesus, I bow before You in praise, for You are the Creator of Heaven and Earth, and the King of kings and the Lord of lords! I praise You and thank you for dying for me. May my life follow the example You have set, and may Your Spirit live through me, that You might receive glory! All praise and honor to You, and to God the Father, and to the Holy Spirit, Amen!”