

Lesson Aim: To take a close look at Who Jesus is and why He came.

Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your personal study time and/or discussion.

Icebreaker: How many generations back can you trace your personal family history?

1. **READ Luke 3:23-37.** In this genealogy, which names stand out to you? What do you know about them?
2. **READ Luke 3:21-22.** How did Jesus identify with humanity through His baptism? What happens at Jesus' baptism that sets Him apart from humanity?
3. **READ Matthew 3:13-17.** What do you notice about John's attitude in the presence of Jesus? Why does John have this kind of attitude? (also **READ John 1:29-34**)
4. What makes it difficult for you to cultivate this kind of attitude of humility and worship before Jesus? What can help you to cultivate this kind of attitude?
5. What is significant about John calling Jesus "the lamb of God"? (also cf. **Exodus 12:10-13 & Isaiah 53:7**) How has this been significant to you personally?
6. One of the principles from Pastor Scott's message Sunday was that *Jesus was one of us*. **READ Hebrews 2:17-18 & 4:14-16.** What in these verses do you find most encouraging about Jesus becoming one of us?
7. How can understanding the implications of Jesus becoming one of us help you as you face trials & temptations?
8. Jesus is fully human but He is also fully God. **READ Colossians 2:9-10 & Hebrews 1:3.** At times, what people (or forces) seem to be more powerful than Jesus? Why?
9. How do you respond to the fact that even these people/forces are under Christ's authority? How can that make a difference in your life this week?

Close in prayer as the Lord leads you.

Luke 3:21 – 38

▶ QUESTION: Who is this guy, anyway?

▶ ANSWER: He is fully man and, at the same time, fully God. (Colossians 2:9)

HUMANITY (Luke 3:23-38) – Seen in His Family Tree / Genealogy

❶ Matthew's genealogy goes forward; Luke goes backward

❷ Matthew goes forward from Abraham to Jesus; Luke goes backward from Jesus to Adam

PRINCIPLE #1: Jesus was one of us!

❸ This is not the same genealogy as Matthew 1

PRINCIPLE #2: Jesus was man as God meant men to be.

DIVINITY (Luke 3:21-22) – Seen at His Baptism (cf. Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:11-13)

- Jesus came from Galilee to be baptized at the Jordan River
- John the Baptist tried to resist baptizing Jesus
- Jesus insisted & John baptized Him
- Jesus was praying as He came up out of the water
- Heaven opened & the Spirit descended upon Christ in the form of a dove
- The voice of the Father affirmed Jesus' unique Sonship
- Jesus left His baptism full of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:1)

▶ Three Main Things to Notice:

❶ Jesus was disqualified & qualified for baptism (Matthew 3:13-15; John 8:46; 2 Cor. 5:21)

❷ The Spirit came upon Jesus in physical form

- Dove = Symbol of peace, purity, innocence, loveliness & new beginnings

❸ The voice of the Father attested to Jesus' perfect Sonship

- "You are my Son, whom I love; with You I am well-pleased" (Luke 3:22b)

PRINCIPLE #3: The most important thing in life is to agree with the Father in His assessment of His Son.

PRINCIPLE #4: The second most important thing is to seek a similar approval from God yourself!
(1 John 3:3)