

# Jesus Christ: True God and True Man

## Lesson 8 Summary

### Lesson Learning Objectives

- The participants will be able to explain the importance of the four Gospels.
- The participants will understand the meaning of the Incarnation.
- The participants will recognize Jesus Christ as the center of the Catholic faith.

### Content Summary

1. The Catholic faith is centered on Jesus Christ. Everything we believe has been revealed in him or through him.
2. The Gospels are the written accounts of Jesus' life that were inspired by the Holy Spirit. Reading them is an important way for us to personally meet Jesus and to understand his message and his life.
3. God reveals in the Bible what we need to know for our salvation.
4. The Gospels are faith portraits of Jesus, not historical biographies. When they created the Gospels, the authors wrote their stories about Jesus in a way that emphasized the religious truths their communities had learned through the Holy Spirit. Because of this, we need all four Gospels to understand the whole truth about Jesus.
5. The titles used for Jesus in the Bible remind us and affirm that Jesus Christ is truly God.
6. But he also had a human intellect and will. "He is truly the Son of God who, without ceasing to be God and Lord, became a man and our brother" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 469).
7. The mystery of the union of Jesus' divine and human natures in one person is called the Incarnation.
8. Because in Jesus Christ the human and the divine are perfectly united, he is the perfect and only mediator between God and humanity.
9. By believing in Jesus and giving ourselves to him with our whole heart, mind, and soul, the Holy Spirit will help us to become more fully the image of God, which is our ultimate destiny.
10. When she said yes to the angel Gabriel, Mary freely gave herself to God's plan to become the Mother of the eternal Son of God made man. Because of this she is given the title of *Theotokos* (Mother of God).
11. Mary was conceived without Original Sin. The formal name for this doctrine is the Immaculate Conception.

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