

Chapter 3

Answer Key for Double-Check Questions

1. *What is Christology?*

Christology is the study of the divinity of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Second Divine Person of the Trinity, and his earthly ministry and eternal mission.

2. *Explain the problems that can arise if we overemphasize either Jesus' divine nature or his human nature.*

If we overemphasize Jesus' human nature, we run the risk of reducing him to just another good moral man or great teacher. If we overemphasize Jesus' divine nature, we might struggle to believe that Jesus offers salvation to those who are struggling or weak. Without the relatability of Jesus' human nature, it could be difficult to believe the message of salvation.

3. *In what ways does Jesus show his divine knowledge in the Gospels?*

He showed foreknowledge of situations. He reads people hearts and minds. He shares knowledge about God the Father.

4. *Where does the word incarnation come from?*

It comes from the Greek word *carne*, meaning "flesh," so it means "taking on of the flesh." It is the mystery of Jesus Christ, the Divine Son of God, becoming man. In the Incarnation, Jesus Christ became truly man while remaining truly God.

5. *What do we mean when we use the term hypostatic union?*

It refers to the union of the divine and human natures in one divine person of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

6. *Explain why God would humble himself to take on flesh and live among us.*

God humbles himself to take on flesh in order for us to be able to relate to him and understand him framed by our own perspective and experience. He humbles himself to offer us salvation.

7. *What difference does it make that Jesus is true God and true man?*

Understanding that Jesus is "true man" helps to guide us to do that which is right and just. Understanding that Jesus is "true God" means that Jesus is more than a great teacher or prophet. Because Jesus is "true God," we are able to see him as Jesus Christ, Messiah and Savior, who offers us the gift of salvation.

