# What Do We Believe?

# Lesson 12

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

Created for use as discipleship material for older children to adults

### What Do We Believe?





Scriptures:

John 3:16; John 1:1-4; Matthew 1:23, 24; Luke 19:1-10; John 6:68, 69; John 9:16-41; Romans 8:3; Colossians 1:16,17; John 8:58; John 17:5; Hebrews 4:14-16

**ESSON Goals:** 

To help the learner to know that Jesus is the one and only Son of God.

To help the learner to know that Jesus is fully human and fully divine.

To help the learner to know that Jesus never sinned.

Scripture Memory:

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

he Lesson:

There was once a boy. His parents weren't able to give him money to go and buy things to play with, so he went around gathering discarded things. He found a broken wagon and took the two good wheels that remained. He remembered that his grandfather had two old iron wheels. He asked Grandpa for permission to use them. He found some old boards that had been placed on the curb for trash pickup. He put the small wagon wheels on the front and the Grandpa's larger wheels on the back. The body of his coaster was made of two long boards attached together in the front and spread apart to fit the larger wheels on the back. He steered by ropes tied to the front wheels. It didn't look like the Soapbox Derby coasters he had seen on TV, but going down the hill in front of his house, it went just as fast, and it was his. He had gathered the parts and put them together himself. It belonged to no one else.

Do you have something that is yours and no one else can claim it? Maybe it is something that you made yourself. Or, maybe it is something that you wrote yourself. Maybe it is a picture that you drew yourself. It is yours and yours alone.

The Bible tells us that Jesus is God's only Son. The coaster belonged only to the boy that built it. God says that Jesus is His Son, and only His. Like God, Jesus is unique...there is no one like Him.

Jesus is the Son of God and He is God. Remember that we discussed the Trinity: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We said that even if it is not easy for us to understand, God is three in one.

God's Son has several names. The name Jesus corresponds to the name Joshua in Hebrew. They both mean "Jehovah (God) is salvation." So, Jesus is Savior, which is another of His names. He is also called Christ which means "the anointed one." The corresponding Hebrew word is Messiah. Jesus was anointed by God to fulfill His promise of a Messiah who would save God's people. He is also called Lord. This name indicates honor or majesty. Sometimes, especially in the epistles, or letters, of the New Testament, these names are combined. He is called Lord Jesus, Lord Jesus Christ, Christ Jesus, or Jesus Christ. Those are the names we humans use. God called Him, "My beloved Son."

The Bible tells us that to use any of the names of God the Father, or Jesus the Son, as a slang word...a word used in anger...a word used in any way other than to honor God is a sin. Using God's names like that is called cursing. It is always bad.

Jesus is God, but He came to earth as a human. His mother was a human. His father is God himself. Now, we know that as humans we must have a human mother and father. However, God can do anything He wants to do, so He chose to be the father of Jesus, and appointed Mary, a Hebrew girl, to be the

mother of Jesus. Another thing that is very difficult for humans to understand is how Jesus could be both human and divine (God). All that we can say is that God can do anything He wants to do, and so He sent Jesus to be God and a human at the same time. No one else has ever been that, nor will anyone ever be.

It is said of Jesus that He is the Son of man and Son of God. Even though He was human, He never sinned. He never did anything wrong. There were many efforts by His enemies to charge Him with breaking the law. They never proved it, because He didn't do it.

By living a life without sin, Jesus set an example for us. He proved that people don't have to sin. He went through all kinds of temptation, was made fun of, and attacked by those who didn't like Him, but He never sinned.

Jesus never sinned, He was the only one that could be offered to pay for our sin. All of us have sinned and don't measure up to God's glory. We deserve to die because of that sin. But, God sent His one and only Son into the world. His son, Jesus, came to look for those who were lost and dead in their sins. He did that because He wanted to save them, and us.

If you have ever had something of your own, that belonged to you and no one else, you might have some idea of how God feels about His Son. Those things that are just ours are precious and valuable. Jesus is precious to God, but so are we. God wants a personal relationship with us and offered His one and only Son to make that happen. Whoever believes in Him will not perish. Instead, he will have eternal life.

Have you believed in Jesus and followed Him? Have you given Him control of your life? If so, be busy about telling others. If not, why not today?

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Planning for Lesson 13
Jesus the Son: He is Creator
and Friend

### **Learning Activities**



- Memory Verse Activity Play "basketball" indoors with a trash can and a small, soft ball. Mark of the throw line and encourage your students to say the verse before they try to make the shot. Keep a tally of points.
- Sing John 3:16 ("For God So Loved the World"),
- Review what you have learned about God from the previous lessons. God is Unique, Eternal,
   Creator and Sustainer, Father and Judge. God is at work in the world today.

John 1:1 tells us that Jesus is God. Colossians 1:15 says, "Christ is the exact likeness of God, who can't be seen." If God is Unique, Eternal, etc. then Jesus is also Unique, Eternal, Creator and Sustainer, etc.

- Create a chart to track Jesus' attributes (characteristics) human and divine. Label one side of the chart GOD and the other MAN. Look up the following verses, placing them in the correct column and writing a brief description of what they explain about Jesus. (Matthew 2:2,1 land 14:3; John 17; John 20:28 and Hebrews 1:8; Mark 15:39 and John 19:5; Mark 1:1; John 9:35-37; Acts 7:59; John 17; I Peter 2:22 and Hebrews 4:15; Matthew 4:1; John 21:17; Luke 2:52; John 10:28; Romans 5:8; Colossians 2:9; Luke 24:39) Remember that Jesus isn't God sometimes and man at other times. Jesus is all God and all man.
- ◆ Celebrate Christmas a little early, even if it is almost Easter. Bring a small, decorated tree to your study area to prompt discussion. Lead into the lesson with the following. At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. He became a man almost 2,000 years ago by virgin birth. Jesus' birth is referred to as the incarnation when God became man. Read John 1:1-2, 14 Jesus is, and always has been, God.
- ◆ Dig Deeper: Look at Peter's confession in Matthew 16:16. Have your students follow your example and kneel in prayer (or simply bow their heads in prayer). Read Matthew 14:22-33. Share with your students that you are going to read a few of the Old Testament promises that were fulfilled when Jesus took on flesh and blood and "moved into the neighborhood." (John 1:14 MSG)

Old Testament Promises: Micah 5:2; Jeremiah 23:5, Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:1,6; John 1:14.

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. **John 3:16** 

What does God call Jesus?

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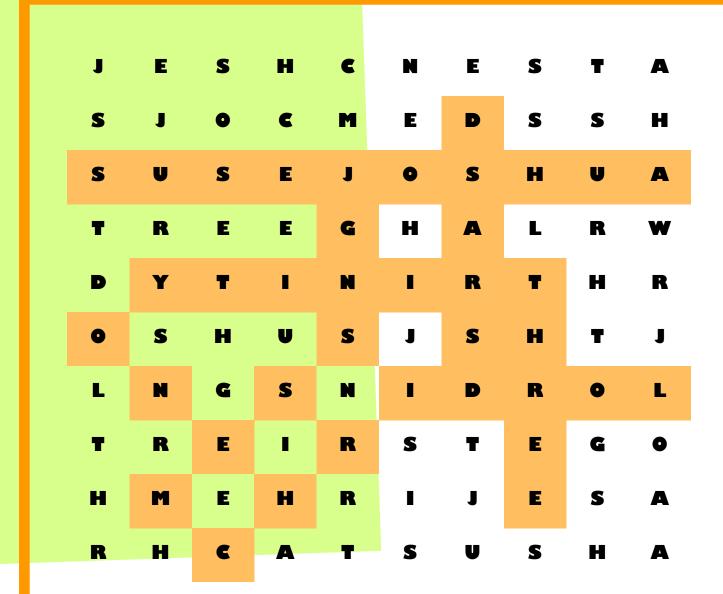
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# Word Search .....



Jesus	Christ	Joshua
Messiah	Lord	trinity
three	one	God

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Messiah	Lord	trinity
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