

Unit 5: Our Theology

Lesson 28:

Two Natures, One Man— Who is Jesus?

Welcome to Confirmation Class

Confirm Series: Lessons 28-30

As we wait to begin, take a moment to review our goals and expectations for class:

Lesson Goals



As a result of this lesson, I will be able to...

- Recognize the paradox of Jesus's nature and its impact on faith.
- Recognize the Holy Spirit as an active presence in our lives and part of the Trinity.
- Define salvation, its connection to grace, and how to share it.

Class Expectations



- WORK HARD
- BE KIND

For Fun!



Talk to your neighbor or the table:

- If you could be any type of ____, what would you be and why...
 - Fruit
 - Animal
 - Season

*For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.*

Ephesians 2:8

Tentative Agenda

5:00-5:05= Welcome/Opening Prayer

5:15-5:35= Lesson 28: Who is Jesus?

5:50-6:25= Lesson 30: The Holy Spirit

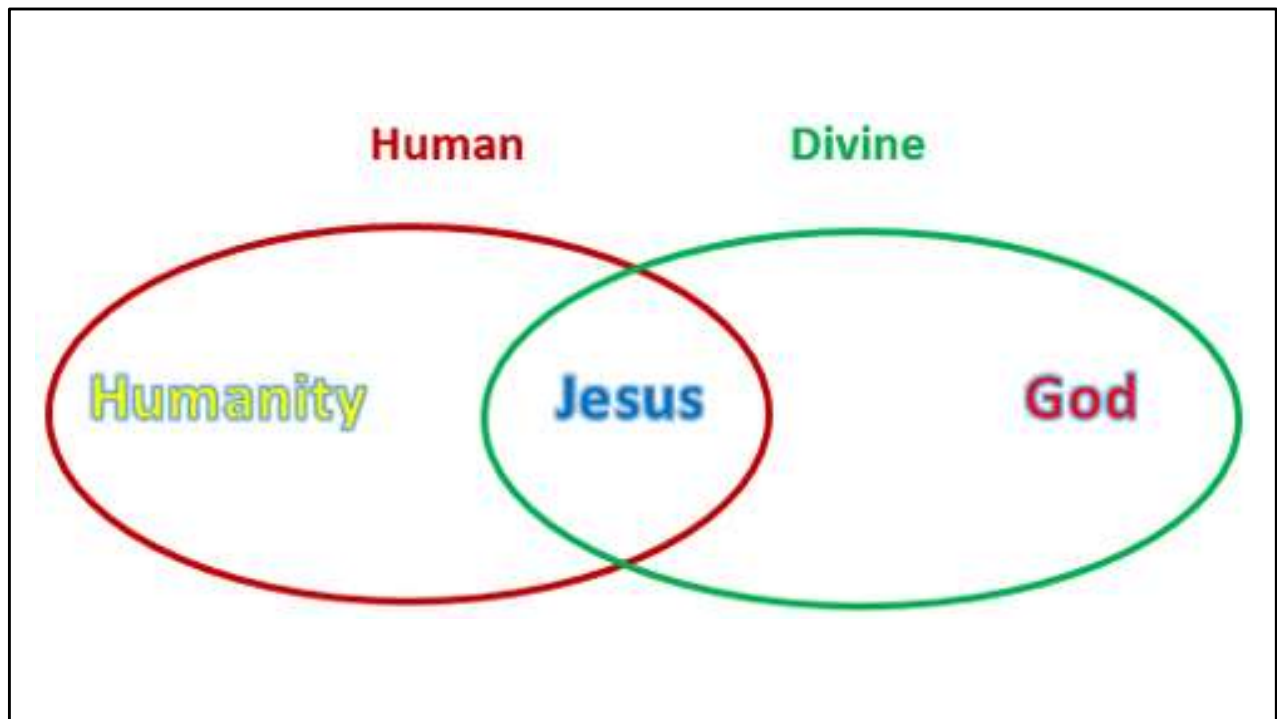
5:35-5:50= Break/Snack

5:50-6:25= Lesson 29: Salvation

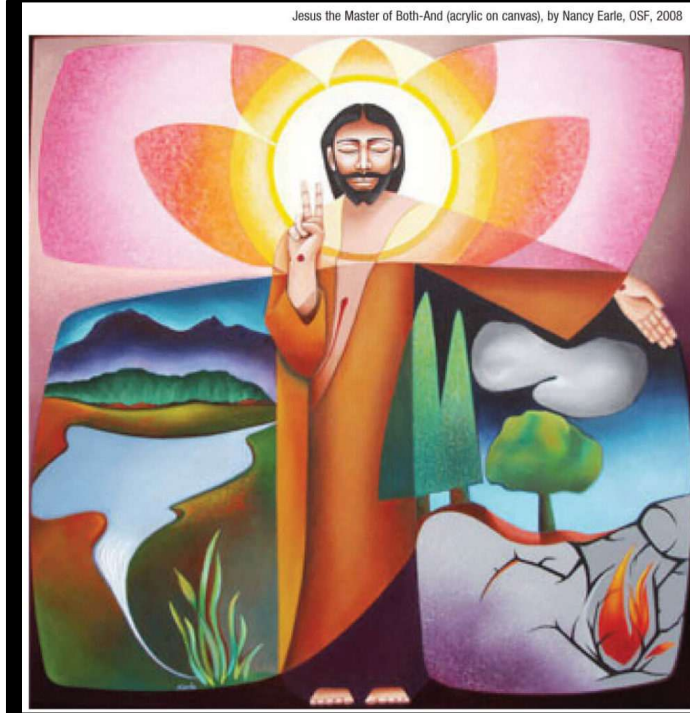
6:25-6:30= Wrap Up/Closing

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, as we gather to learn more about Jesus' life, the mystery of His nature, and the gift of salvation, open our hearts and minds to Your truth. Help us to embrace the season of Lent as a time of reflection and growth, to see Your grace at work in our lives, and to share Your love with others. Thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit, our guide and helper, who reminds us that we are never alone. Guide our discussion and deepen our faith. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



- Understanding the complete nature of Jesus as fully human and fully divine is difficult.
 - It requires us to explore the nature of paradoxes and the way our own lives are fully a variety of different roles and traits.
 - This lesson provides an even deeper look into Jesus's life and ministry to help us better understand the ways our experiences make way for others to see Jesus in new and refreshing ways.
- When we think about who Jesus is, we can probably name a number of things: Savior, Teacher, Messiah, Healer, and more.
 - But to really dig into it, we must understand how Jesus was able to be both fully human and fully divine.
 - It can be hard for some people to reconcile the idea that Jesus was God in the flesh.
- Think about Jesus and who he was; he was fully human—a man who lived, learned, and engaged in community just like everyone else.
 - He was also fully divine—God made in flesh who had the ability to heal, deliver, and be the perfect sacrifice for our sins.
 - These two parts of Jesus's nature are inseparable.



Read: Mark 5:1-17, Mark 8:23-24

Read: Luke 2:41-52, Luke 5:27-32

Read: John 1:1-18, John 14:8-11

While reading, THINK

- What is happening in these Scriptures that reveals parts of Jesus's nature?
- What does this tell us about Jesus as fully human and/or fully divine?
- For example, walking on water...is that MAN or DIVINE? Why?

- We believe the Holy Bible, Old and New Testaments, reveals the Word of God so far as it is necessary for our salvation.
 - It is to be received through the Holy Spirit as the true rule and guide for faith and practice.
- Jesus's **human qualities** reflect His ability to learn, grow, interact, and experience human life. His **divine qualities** show His authority over nature, wisdom beyond human capacity, and power to perform miracles, revealing His unity with God. Both aspects are essential to fully understanding who Jesus is!
- To "construct" Jesus as both man and God, read the following Scriptures.
 - **Read:** Mark 5:1-17, Mark 8:23-24
 - **Read:** Luke 2:41-52, Luke 5:27-32
 - **Read:** John 1:1-18, John 14:8-11
- **While reading, think:** What is happening in these Scriptures that reveals parts of Jesus's nature?
 - What does this tell us about Jesus as fully human and/or fully divine? For example, walking on water...is that MAN or DIVINE? Why?

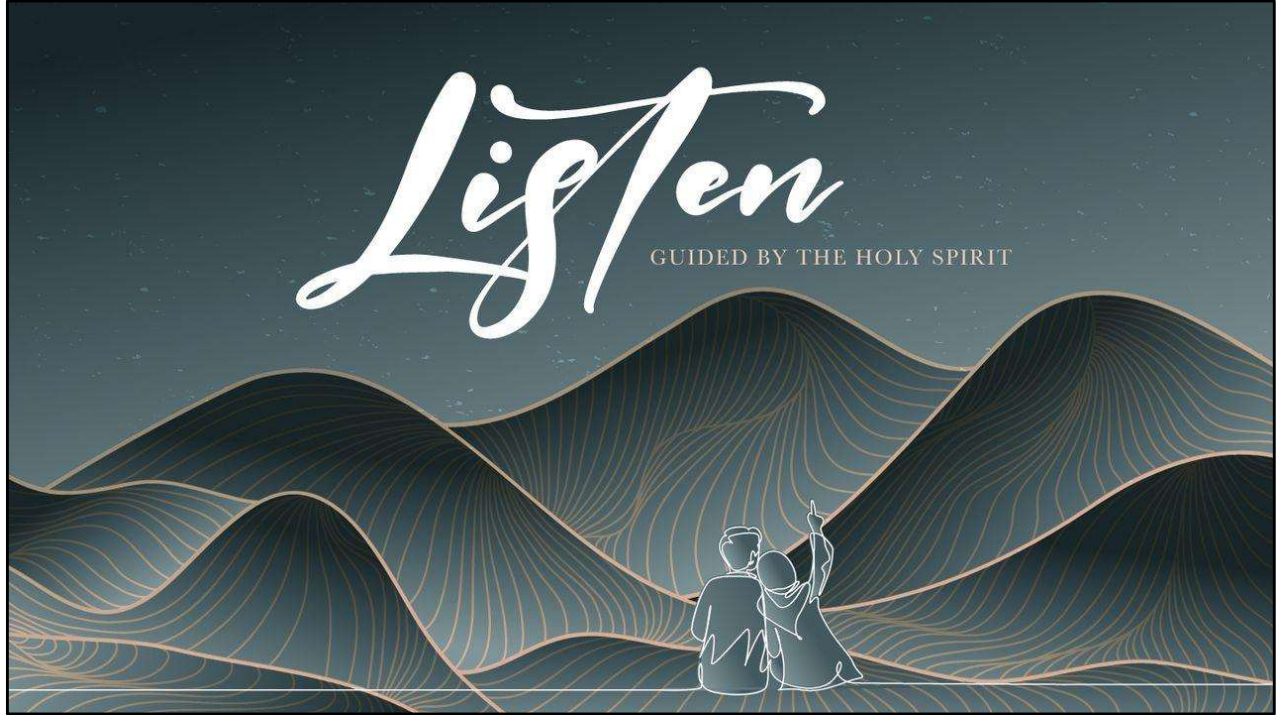
<p>Mark 5:1-17 (Jesus Heals the Demon-Possessed Man)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interacts with people directly ○ Shows compassion to the man possessed ○ Communicates verbally with others • Divine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commands unclean spirits to leave ○ Demonstrates authority over demons ○ Instills fear and awe in witnesses ○ Displays supernatural power <p>Mark 8:23-24 (Healing the Blind Man at Bethsaida)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Takes the man by the hand ○ Uses physical touch (spits on the man's eyes) ○ Performs the healing in steps, showing a process • Divine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Restores sight miraculously ○ Exercises power beyond human capability 	<p>Luke 2:41-52 (Jesus as a Boy in the Temple)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Experiences childhood and growth ○ Learns from teachers ○ Seeks understanding ○ Expresses emotions (his parents find him and he responds to their worry) • Divine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Displays wisdom beyond His years ○ Calls the temple "His Father's house" ○ Knows His divine purpose early on <p>Luke 5:27-32 (Calling Levi & Eating with Sinners)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Engages in everyday life activities (eating, socializing) ○ Interacts with tax collectors and sinners ○ Faces criticism from religious leaders • Divine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Calls disciples with authority ○ Declares His mission to call sinners to repentance ○ Demonstrates knowledge of people's hearts 	<p>John 1:1-18 (The Word Became Flesh)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Becomes flesh and dwells among humanity ○ Is born and experiences life as a person • Divine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is the eternal Word of God ○ Was with God in the beginning ○ Is the light of the world ○ Has the power to give life ○ Reveals the glory of God <p>John 14:8-11 (Jesus and the Father Are One)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Speaks to His disciples and responds to their questions ○ Explains His identity through conversation • Divine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Declares unity with the Father ○ Performs miraculous works as proof of His divinity ○ Reveals the Father's presence through Himself
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After reading the Scriptures, check your understanding and see if you found these ideas in the verses.

Unit 5: Our Theology

Lesson 30:

Divine Helper—The Holy Spirit as Guide



- So, if Jesus shows us what it looks like for God to be with us—fully human and fully divine—then the next question is: how is God still with us now?
 - Jesus shows us God’s presence in a real, human way—and that same presence doesn’t disappear.
 - It continues through the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit acts as a guide whenever we are in need of direction.
 - Without the Holy Spirit speaking to us, guiding our thoughts and actions, we run the risk of running into things that can harm us or slow down our progress.



- The Holy Spirit, one part of the triune nature of God, is a pivotal part of the Christian faith and understanding of Jesus’s role in our lives.
 - The Holy Spirit has been a part of the Christian narrative since the beginning (Genesis 1).
 - Understanding the Holy Spirit’s place in our lives and how the Spirit’s presence serves as a practical helper deepens our relationship with Christ and serves as an important reminder that God is always with us.
- As we explore Scripture and discuss this more, you will notice that the Holy Spirit not only takes on different forms (rushing wind, fire, and so forth), but also is revealed to people in different ways.
 - Have you ever said to yourself, “I had a feeling that was going to happen,” or “Something told me to help this person”?
 - That feeling or “knowing” is often the Holy Spirit speaking to us, nudging us to do or act a certain way.
- Watch (4 min 10 sec) <https://youtu.be/oNNZO9i1Gjc?si=Wp1egmhb2zGw-85x>

John 14:15-17, 25-27 → JESUS PROMISES TO SEND THE HOLY SPIRIT

John 1:8, 2:1-4 → THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES JESUS'S FOLLOWERS POWER TO WITNESS AND CARRY ON HIS MINISTRY THROUGH THE CHURCH

Acts 8:29-31 → THE HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES PEOPLE

Romans 8:26-27 → THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US IN OUR WEAKNESS

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 → THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES THOSE WHO ARE OPEN TO GOD

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 → THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES VARIETIES OF GIFTS FOR THE COMMON GOOD

- Scripture is our best place to look for examples of how the Holy Spirit helps and guides us.

Unit 5: Our Theology

Lesson 29:

What is Salvation?

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10

- 1. Distractions:** "What's something that you're always doing or thinking about that takes up a lot of your time and makes it hard to focus on God?"
- 2. Peer Pressure:** "Has there ever been a time when you felt like you had to hide your faith to fit in with friends? What was that like?"
- 3. Doubt:** "Is there something about God or Jesus that you're not sure about? How does it affect your trust in Him?"
- 4. Pride:** "Do you ever feel like you don't need God because you've got everything figured out? How can that get in the way of your relationship with Jesus?"
- 5. Busyness:** "When your schedule gets crazy with school and activities, how do you make time for God? Or do you find it hard to do so?"
- 6. Past Mistakes:** "Is there something in your past that makes you feel like you're not good enough for God's forgiveness? How does that hold you back?"
- 7. Unforgiveness:** "Is there someone you've had a hard time forgiving? How does holding onto that anger or hurt make it harder to see God's love?"
- 8. Skepticism:** "Do you ever wonder if faith is real, especially when you see bad things happening around you? How does that affect your belief in Jesus?"
- 9. Materialism:** "With so many things out there trying to get your attention (like new gadgets or clothes), how do you think that affects your relationship with God?"
- 10. Comfort Zone:** "Are there parts of your life where you're comfortable without God, like at school or with friends? How can staying in your comfort zone stop you from growing in your faith?"



WHO offered us salvation?

WHAT is salvation?

WHEN did the act of salvation begin?

WHERE did the act of salvation happen?

WHY did salvation happen?

- Salvation is the gift we receive through Jesus Christ, but what is it and what purpose does it serve exactly?
- Let's define salvation and point us to how it gives us access to God, how we can lean into the beauty of grace, and ways we can share the message of salvation and grace with others.
- *Salvation*—a word we have probably heard a million times; but what is it really? What does it mean to be “saved” and what purpose does it serve?
- Consider the following questions as you ponder the Five W's of Salvation.
 - **WHO offered us salvation?**
 - God offered us salvation through Jesus.
 - Jesus is God's Son, and He came to save us because He loves us and wants us to be with Him forever.
 - **WHAT is salvation? When thinking about our spirit, what does it mean to be "saved"?**
 - Salvation means being saved from sin and its consequences.
 - It's like being given a fresh start, where we no longer have to be separated from God.
 - To be "saved" means our spirit is forgiven and restored, and we

are given the chance to live with God both now and forever.

- **WHEN did the act of salvation begin?**
 - The act of salvation began when Jesus came to earth.
 - He lived a perfect life and then died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins.
 - But it didn't end there—He rose again, showing that He has the power to give us new life!
- **WHERE did the act of salvation happen?**
 - The act of salvation happened in Jerusalem, where Jesus was crucified and resurrected.
 - His death and resurrection happened in a specific place, but the impact of salvation is for everyone, everywhere.
- **WHY did salvation happen?**
 - Salvation happened because God loves us so much and wanted to bring us back into relationship with Him.
 - We couldn't fix the brokenness of our own sin, so Jesus came to do that for us.
 - Salvation is God's way of showing His grace and mercy.



- **Read** Luke 19:1-10 as a group
- **How does this Scripture show salvation?**
 - Jesus declares that "salvation has come to this house" after Zacchaeus, a despised tax collector, shows genuine repentance by offering to give away his wealth and make amends for his wrongs.
 - This moment highlights Jesus's mission to "seek and save the lost," demonstrating that salvation is not just for the righteous but for everyone, regardless of their past. Zacchaeus's actions show that true repentance involves both inward change and outward action, making this a powerful reminder of God's grace, transformation, and inclusivity.
 - Jesus's message is clear: no one is beyond His reach.
 - Salvation requires us to actively remove the things that block our view of Jesus, just like Zacchaeus had to climb the tree to see Him.
 - Jesus calls us to clear the path in our hearts and lives so we can experience His love and transformation more fully.



Wrap-Up

Confirm Series: Lessons 28-30

As we wrap up class, lets go over a few things together:

Objective

- Recognize the paradox of Jesus's nature and its impact on faith.
- Recognize the Holy Spirit as an active presence in our lives and part of the Trinity.
- Define salvation, its connection to grace, and how to share it.

Application

Today's lesson is important to me because...

Upcoming Dates

- HOLY WEEK
 - 4/2= Holy Thursday
 - 4/3= Good Friday
 - 4/4= Youth-led Easter Eve
 - 4/5= Easter Sunday
- Sunday, April 12= LAST Confirmation Class
- Sunday, April 19= LAST SNL, family potluck
- Wednesday, April 22= Earth Day Clean Up
- Saturday, April 25-Sunday, April 26
 - Confirmation Retreat Weekend!
- Sunday, May 3= Confirmation Dinner
- Sunday, May 17= Confirmation Sunday

Closing Prayer

One confirmand will lead us in a closing prayer.