

God Comes: as a Man



Review: Last week, we heard how God's great rescue plan for the world took the humble and courageous path of being born as a baby in troubled circumstances. This week, we focus on the evidence for and implications of Jesus being a man. Read Matthew 4:1-11



Discuss:

- It has been said that we run the risk of understanding Jesus in ways that are either too *small* (in the sense of limited) or too *big* (in the sense of heavenly or exalted). To what extent do you recognise that risk? Where is the truth, as you understand it?
- Throughout the New Testament, we are provided with stories that reflect how Jesus lived through the joys and difficulties of being human (the human condition). Recall biblical examples that bring that to life in three different areas of Jesus's experience:
 - physical (e.g. pain – on the cross)
 - Matthew 27: 32
 - emotional (e.g. angry – in the temple)
 - John 2:13-25 / Matthew 11:19 (being called a glutton/friend of sinners)
 - spiritual (e.g. tempted – during the 40 days)
 - Matthew 4:1-11 / Luke 4:1-13
 - Betrayal - Luke 22:54–62 / Luke 22:47–48
- As a result of his 'humanness' Jesus understands what we go through in our daily lives with all of its ups and downs. What difference does that make to:
 - our prayers
 - our trust in him
 - our relationship with him?

Discuss those aspects and share examples of ways in which that understanding has helped you.



Pray: Thank you, Lord Jesus, that you know human life from the inside, that we can share all our experience with you and that you will never turn us away.