



Open it

1. Give an example of someone sticking up for you or someone else.

Daily Devotions

Day 1

Today's Theme: Explore It

Read Hebrews 5:1–10

2. What is the role of the high priest?
3. Why is the high priest able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward?
4. What two positions does the Father say that Jesus holds?
5. How did Jesus pray?
6. Why did the Father hear Jesus' prayers?
7. How did God use suffering in Jesus' life?

Day 3

Today's Theme: Jesus—100% God, 100% Man

Read Hebrews 5:5–6

This verse is a prophecy from Psalm 2:7 fulfilled in Jesus, by the Father calling Him His Son and thus referring to Jesus' deity. In John 5:17–18, Jesus Himself refers to God as His Father, making himself equal with God, and the Jews wanted to kill Him because they thought it was blasphemous for anyone to call himself God's son. In Psalm 110:4, another prophecy of Jesus is fulfilled when He is referred to as a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek. By Jesus taking on the role of priest, Jesus is taking on humanity to represent us before God the Father.

It's important to know that Jesus is 100% God and 100% man. The big theological term for this is "hypostatic union," meaning in the single person of Jesus are two natures, human and divine, God in the flesh!¹ If you ever hear someone say that Jesus isn't fully God and fully man, **beware** because that person has a belief contrary to Scripture of the true identity of Jesus.²

Muslims believe that Jesus is one of Allah's prophets, but not God. Mormons believe that Jesus was a man who became God. Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus is a god and inferior to God the Father. As Christians we believe Jesus is both 100% God, equal with the Father, and 100% man. By being 100% man, Jesus identifies with our humanity, and by being 100% God He is able to be that perfect sacrifice on our behalf for our sins!

10. Look up the following verses and write "MAN" if the verse(s) talks about Jesus' humanity or write "GOD" if the verses talk about Jesus' divinity, or "GOD and MAN" if it refers to both.

Matthew 4:1–2 _____

Mark 1:33–34 _____

John 1:1–3, 14 _____

John 4:6 _____

John 10:30 _____

John 11:33–34 _____

John 11:35 _____

John 19:28 _____

Philippians 2:6–11 _____

11. How does Jesus being fully man and fully God give you comfort and confidence to pursue Jesus with the joys, trials, and temptations of your life?

¹ Matthew 1:23, John 1:1–3 & 14, Philippians 2:6–11

² See I John 4:1–3

Day 4

Today's Theme: Heartfelt Prayer

Read Hebrews 5:7–10

How's your prayer life? Do you pray? What things do you pray about? When Jesus prayed, it says that he offered up "prayers" and "supplications." "Prayers" is the Greek word for "need." "Supplications" is a unique word for prayer in Greek, used only in Hebrews 5:7, and it's the idea of the person praying holding out an olive branch pleading humbly for a request. Holding out an olive branch is a symbol of peace and wanting to end a conflict. Both Matthew 26:36–56 and Luke 22:39–46 record Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane, which was a conflict of the Father's will for Jesus to endure the suffering of the cross and Jesus' desire for the Father to take this suffering away from Him. In Luke 22:44, it says that Jesus prayed with such deep anguish, that his sweat was like drops of blood. What was Jesus praying so deeply about? He was agonizing over the weight of the burden of taking all our sins upon his sinless body while on the cross and then having to face the Father turning His back on Jesus and pouring out His wrath on Jesus because of our sin. As Jesus was praying, He said in Luke 22:42, *"Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."* We see that by submitting to the will of the Father, Jesus fully obeyed the Father all the way to the cross. When Jesus prayed, He prayed first to please the Father and bring glory to Him through His obedience and also for our spiritual wellbeing in that He was going to endure the cross so that we could be forgiven of our sins and have eternal salvation. When we pray, we should seek to bring glory to God and please Him as well as plead humbly and earnestly for the spiritual wellbeing of our own relationship with Jesus as well as those around us, both for Christians to grow in their relationship with Jesus and for unbelievers to come and trust in Jesus. As a matter of fact, if you look at the other prayers of Jesus (John 17) and of Paul (Ephesians 1:15–22, 3:14–21; Philippians 1:9–11, Colossians 1:9–14) in the Bible, we see that these are deep earnest prayers on the behalf of others.

12. When you pray, what things do you typically pray about?

13. How should reflecting on Jesus' deep earnest prayer and ultimately His sacrifice on the cross motivate you to pray?

14. Pick one or more of these passages (John 17; Ephesians 1:15–22; 3:14–21; Philippians 1:9–11; Colossians 1:9–14) and read through the prayers. What things are prayed about in these passages? How can you adjust your prayer life to pray as Jesus and Paul prayed? Spend time praying through one of these passages.