

# The Person and The Way: Jesus Christ



## Unit One, Session 1

# Jesus of Nazareth: Son of God

### Pray Together

Dear Lord, help us to understand who you are, to see that even as you are God and King of all life, you know intimately what it means to be a human being with all the cares of this world. Amen.

## Who Is Jesus? *Hisoos Krisdos* **Յիսուս Գրիստոս**

Jesus is human because

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus is divine because

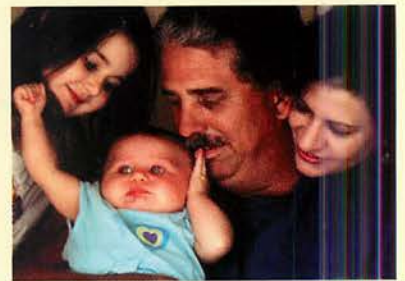
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### Jesus as One of Us

In the New Testament we learn about Jesus' life on earth. We know that he came to the world as a newborn baby. All babies need lots of care, so God provided a loving human family to see that Jesus was kept warm and fed and safe.

Like all of us, he went through all the stages of childhood. Jesus became a teenager and eventually a grown man. The Nicene Creed states that Jesus "became incarnate, and was made man." This means that, like us, Jesus felt hungry, thirsty, sad, tired, and all the ways that we feel.

How do you think you would feel if you had just walked in the hot sun for several hours? Thirsty? Tired? That is exactly how Jesus felt one day when he was walking from Judea to Galilee. He stopped to rest at a well in Samaria. A Samaritan woman came up to the well with her bucket to draw some water. Jesus asked her for a drink (John 4:4-26). This shows he felt exactly the same way we would feel after hours of travel under the summer sun. Jesus even went through a terrible death on the cross. Because of this we know that he truly was one of us in every single way, and we can trust that he can really understand us.



### Jesus as God

Jesus lived among us as a complete human being, but he is also the Son of God. How do we know this? ("This is my beloved son with whom I am well pleased." Matthew 17:5)



Unlike everyone else who ever lived, Jesus never sinned. He was perfect even though he was just like us. He felt the same temptations to disobey as we do, but he did not follow those temptations even one single time. Jesus was able to instantly cure illnesses and even bring the dead back to life. He changed plain water into wine at a wedding feast and fed a crowd of thousands of people with two small fish and five loaves of bread.

Jesus told a stormy sea wind to stop blowing and it did! Even after his own death, he arose and walked out of the tomb. Because he can do these things, we can be certain he has the power to help us and rescue us from our sins.

## Putting It All Together

Jesus is called the “Second Person” of the Holy Trinity. The other two are the Father and the Holy Spirit. The idea of the Holy Trinity can be difficult to understand. One God in three persons? How does that work?



Think about your Sunday School teacher. He or she, as you know, is a *teacher*. Your teacher may be married, which makes him or her a *husband* or *wife*. Does the teacher have children? That makes your teacher a *parent*. If they have a job, they are an *employee* of a business.

Sunday school students might call their teacher “Mrs. Hovsepian.” Her husband refers to her as “my wife.” Her children call her “Mom,” and your teacher’s co-workers might call her by her first name. One person, seen in several different ways, all reflecting a specific function and relationship.

God provides the scientific world with a very clear model of the Holy Trinity. Water can be a liquid, a gas (steam) or a solid (ice). These substances look, feel, and behave very differently, yet the chemical formula for water, H<sub>2</sub>O, is exactly the same in all cases. Three substances: liquid, ice, and steam – always water. Father, Son, Holy Spirit – always God.

You fulfill many different roles in your life. You are almost like several people rolled up into one person. What are the various “people” that make you the special person you are?

## What Does the Bible Say?

Throughout the Bible, God tells us about Jesus and his unique position as fully God and fully human. Not only do we read about Jesus in the New Testament, but even some of the earliest Old Testament writings let us know about him.

We know that he would come in the form of a man that did not look different from any other men. Somewhere around 740 to 701 B.C., the prophet Isaiah tells us that this Son which God will give us will have “no beauty or majesty to attract us.” (Isaiah 53:2) We also see from Isaiah that Jesus is worthy to be called “Mighty God, Everlasting Father.”

In various places in the Bible, Jesus is referred to as the “Word.” This means that Jesus, as God, clearly expresses in his teaching and through his life how we should live to truly follow him.





# Our Armenian Way

Prayers of St. Nersess Shnorhali

*Soorp Nersess Shnorhali*

## Սուրբ Ներսէս Շնորհալի

St. Nersess Shnorhali (Nersess the Grace-filled) was a great leader of the Armenian Church. He lived from 1100 to 1173 A.D. St. Nersess wrote hymns, poems, and the beloved Armenian prayer “*Havadov Khosdovanim*” (I Confess with Faith).

Below is one of the 24 prayers traditionally said during the Lenten service and at other times of prayer as well.

### Jesus, Wisdom of the Father

*Imasdootiun Hor Hisoos*

Իմաստութիւն  
Հօր Յիսուս



Grant me wisdom

*Door intz imasdootiun*

Տուր ինձ իմաստութիւն,

That I might always think, speak, and do

That which is good in your sight.

*Uzparees khorhel yev khosel yev kordzel*

*Arachee ko amenayn jham.*

Զբարիս խորհել եւ խօսել եւ գործել առաջի քո  
յամենայն ժամ.

Save me from evil thoughts, words and deeds

*Ee char khorhurtotz, ee paneetz yev ee kordzotz purgya zees.*

Ի չար խորհրդոց, ի բանից եւ ի գործոց փրկեա զիս.

And have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a  
great sinner.

*Yev voghormya ko araradzotz yev eentz pazmameghees.*

Եւ ողորմեա քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս:

At what times do you think this prayer would be especially appropriate?

You are many things – but just one person. Just like the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – One God!



Below are some descriptions of Jesus from the Bible. Place a star on the line before each statement that tells us Jesus is God, and a circle before each statement that shows he is truly human.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ “Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end.” (Isaiah 9:7)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” (John 1:14)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ “Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows.” (Isaiah 53:4)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ “Through him all things were made, without him nothing was made.” (John 1:3)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.” (John 1:1-2)

## Faith Word

### Bible

From the Greek “biblia” for “books”



## Spotlight on the Bible



In Armenian, the Bible is called “Asdvadzashoonch,” or “God’s breath (inspiration).” This means that the stories and teachings of the Bible came to us through the various writers and editors of the Old and New Testaments who were each divinely inspired.

### FAMILY FOCUS: For Parents



#### Lesson Roundup

Today we learned that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human. In the Bible we found examples from his life that show his nature. We also explored the concept of the Holy Trinity, so that the students might understand how the three Persons of the Godhead relate to one another. This lesson introduced the children to St. Nersess Shnorhali and his beloved prayers, specifically the prayer known as “Jesus, Wisdom of the Father.”

#### Family Faith Activity

We are so happy about Jesus and his love for us that we want to share it every day, not just in church. During this week, find a time when all the family is present. Try to perform at least one of the following activities with your family.

1. Say the “Hayr Mer” together.
2. Have each family member share a way to “think, speak or do” what is good in God’s sight.
3. Have each family member look through the newspaper and find an article which shows a person being like Jesus through helping others.
4. Learn the St. Nersess prayer in English and Armenian.

#### A Parent’s Promise

Yes, I read the Lesson Roundup \_\_\_ and tried at least one activity as a family\_\_\_.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_