

15. Many who have denied the full humanity (or full divinity) of Jesus have ended up teaching that we must save ourselves in some way. Why do you think this is?

16. To be fair in Acts 2.40 Peter did tell people to “save yourselves”, but what did he mean, what had he been telling them to do (v37-38) and how did it relate to Jesus’ humanity (v22-24)?

## Pray

Pray for our various groups at St James as the autumn term gets under way. Pray for the youth and children’s groups and their leaders. Pray for our Asylum Seekers and plans to run a basic English course.

Pray for our Government and MPs over the coming weeks as they seek a way forward over Brexit and tempers seem to be rising.

As we think in our sermons and studies about what we believe about Jesus pray that we might have courage to be like Peter, tell others about Christ, and call them to repent and believe in Him.

*David Phillips,  
September 2019*

# I Believe in Jesus

## Study 1

### “Jesus of Nazareth, a man”



“To win people for Christ and to build them up in Christ.”  
www.stjameschorley.org Registered Charity No. 1130725

*There is a separate leaflet giving the text and background of the Apostles’ creed and also some boxes **to be filled in during the first four studies** and referred back to in the remaining six. Keep it safe.*

## Preaching about Jesus

### Read Acts 2.14-37

1. Who was preaching and what gave rise to the opportunity?

2. What different names, titles or descriptions of Jesus are used in this sermon?

3. What different events concerning Jesus, past, present and future, are mentioned? (*Use the **separate sheet** to summarise the verses, or just record the chapter and verse numbers.*)

## Jesus of Nazareth, a Man

4. Some people said that Jesus was not a real man but, for example, a spirit who had the appearance of a man. What does Peter say about the humanity of Jesus in Acts 2?

5. When you think about Jesus are you more likely to think of Him being human like us, or divine like God? Does how we think of Him affect things like our prayers and worship?

6. What do each of the following passages tell us about the nature of Jesus' humanity?

- John 11.35
- Matthew 9.10-11
- Luke 8.23
- John 4.7

**Read 1 John 1.1-3**

7. How does John's introduction to his first letter show that the Christian faith is not a series of ideas, but is rooted in historical events and a particular man?

8. Since Jesus was an actual man, why is the testimony of the first disciples so important to all later Christians? What does it mean for the importance of the Bible for us?

9. How important is it to believe that Jesus was a real man? See **1 John 4.2 and 2 John 7.**

**Why it matters**

**Read Hebrews 4.14-5.2**

10. What do these verses tell us about why it matters that Jesus was a real human being?

11. How does it help you to know that Jesus is able to sympathise with your weaknesses?

12. **Read 1 Timothy 2.5-6** What is a mediator? In what different ways can we say that Jesus is a mediator between us and God? What is particularly mentioned in verse 6?

13. What do **Hebrews 2.14-15 & Galatians 4.4-5** say about why it was necessary for Jesus to be fully human?

*(Some people said that Jesus had a human body but not a human mind or spirit. Others famously responded "what has not been assumed has not been redeemed". Assumed here means to take on, so He had to take on our full humanity in order to save us fully.)*

14. More recently feminist theologians questioned whether Jesus could save everyone since he was just a man, not a woman. How would you respond to that?