

DIOCESE OF BOISE

OFFICE OF CATECHESIS



The Office of Catechesis supports the mission of the Diocese of Boise by assisting the Bishop in carrying out his role as the chief catechist of the diocese.



Catechist Certification Christology

Kathy Barkdull, Presenter

Welcome to the Diocese of Boise Catechist Training!

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Opening Prayer

God so loved the world that He gave his only Son that whoever believes in Him may not die but have eternal life.

God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

He who acts in truth comes into the light of Christ to make clear that his deeds are done in God.

Amen.

Based on John 3:16



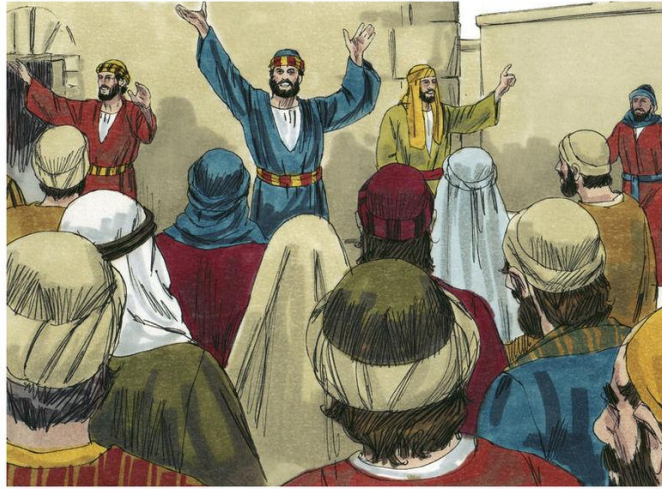
Introductions

What is your definition of Christology?

What is Christology?








- The transmission of the Christian faith consists primarily in proclaiming Jesus Christ in order to lead others to faith in him.
- From the beginning, the first disciples burned with the desire to proclaim Christ: “We cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”
- And they invite people of every era to enter into the joy of their communion with Christ.

CCC 425

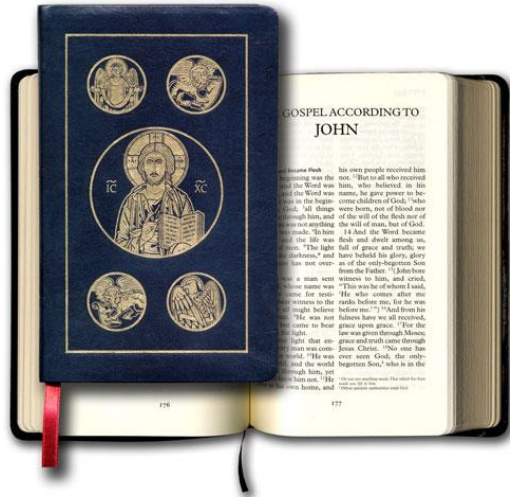
- 
- Jesus Christ not only transmits the word of God: he *is* the Word of God.
 - Catechesis is therefore completely tied to him.
 - Thus what must characterize the message transmitted by catechesis is, above all, its “christocentricity” This may be understood in various senses.

GDC 98

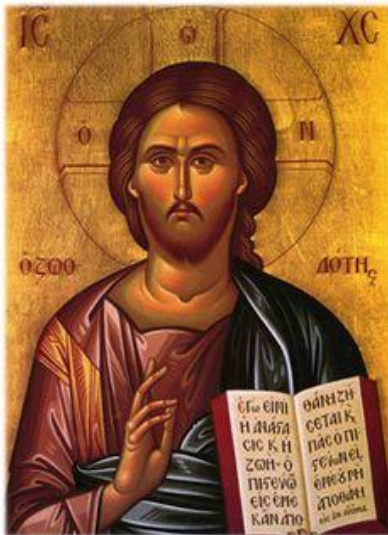
Senses of Christology

- At the heart of Christology is a person, the Person of Jesus of Nazareth, the only Son of the Father.
- Christ is the “center” of salvation history.
- The Gospel message does not come from man, but is the Word of God.
- Christology obligates catechesis to transmit what Jesus teaches about God, man, happiness, the moral life, death, etc. without in any way changing his thought.

Primary Sources of Faith in Jesus Christ



- The Bible – especially the New Testament



- Traditions of the Catholic Church

The Core Catholic Elements of Faith in Jesus Christ

- The Historical humanity in Jesus.
- Jesus as the fullness of true humanity.
- The Resurrection of Jesus.
- Incarnation – “God with us.”
- The importance of the Incarnation for our salvation.
- The continuing presence of Jesus among us.
- Jesus as Lord of the Future.

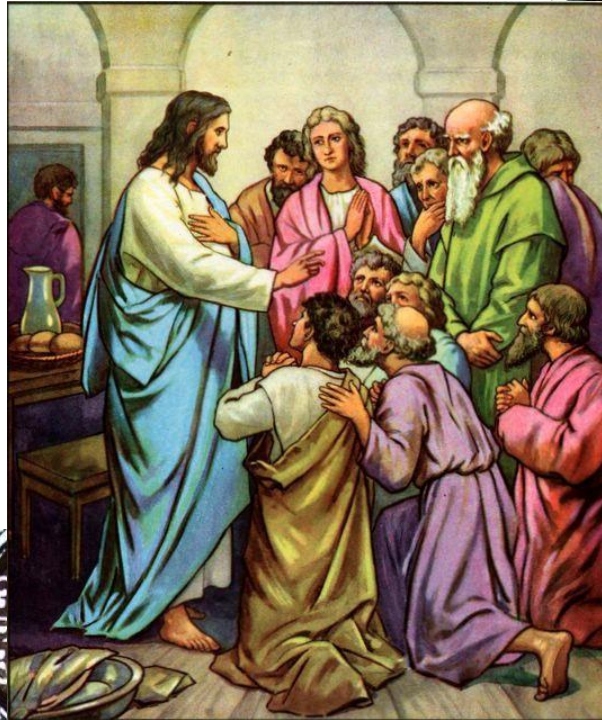
Jesus Christ: Mediator and Fullness of Revelation

God revealed himself progressively to man, through the prophets and through salvific events, until he brought to completion his self-revelation by sending his own Son...

Jesus Christ is not merely the greatest of the prophets but is the eternal Son of God, made man.

He is, therefore, the final event towards which all the events of salvation history converge. He is indeed “the Father’s one, perfect and unsurpassable Word.”

GDC 40

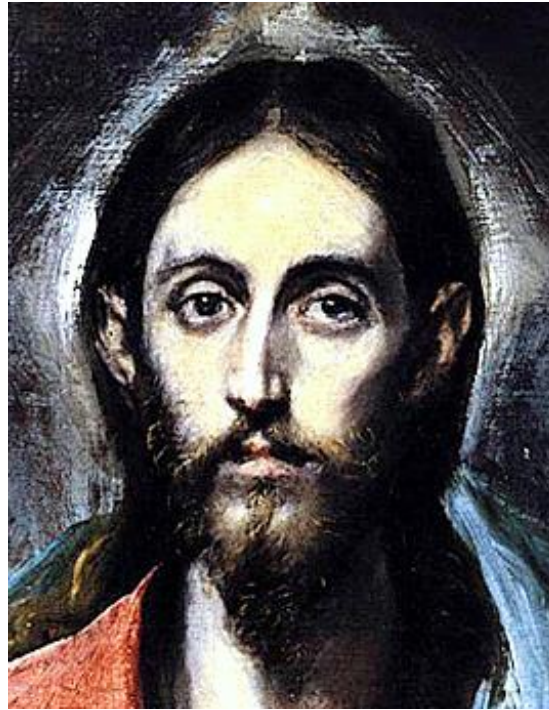


Jesus of the Gospels

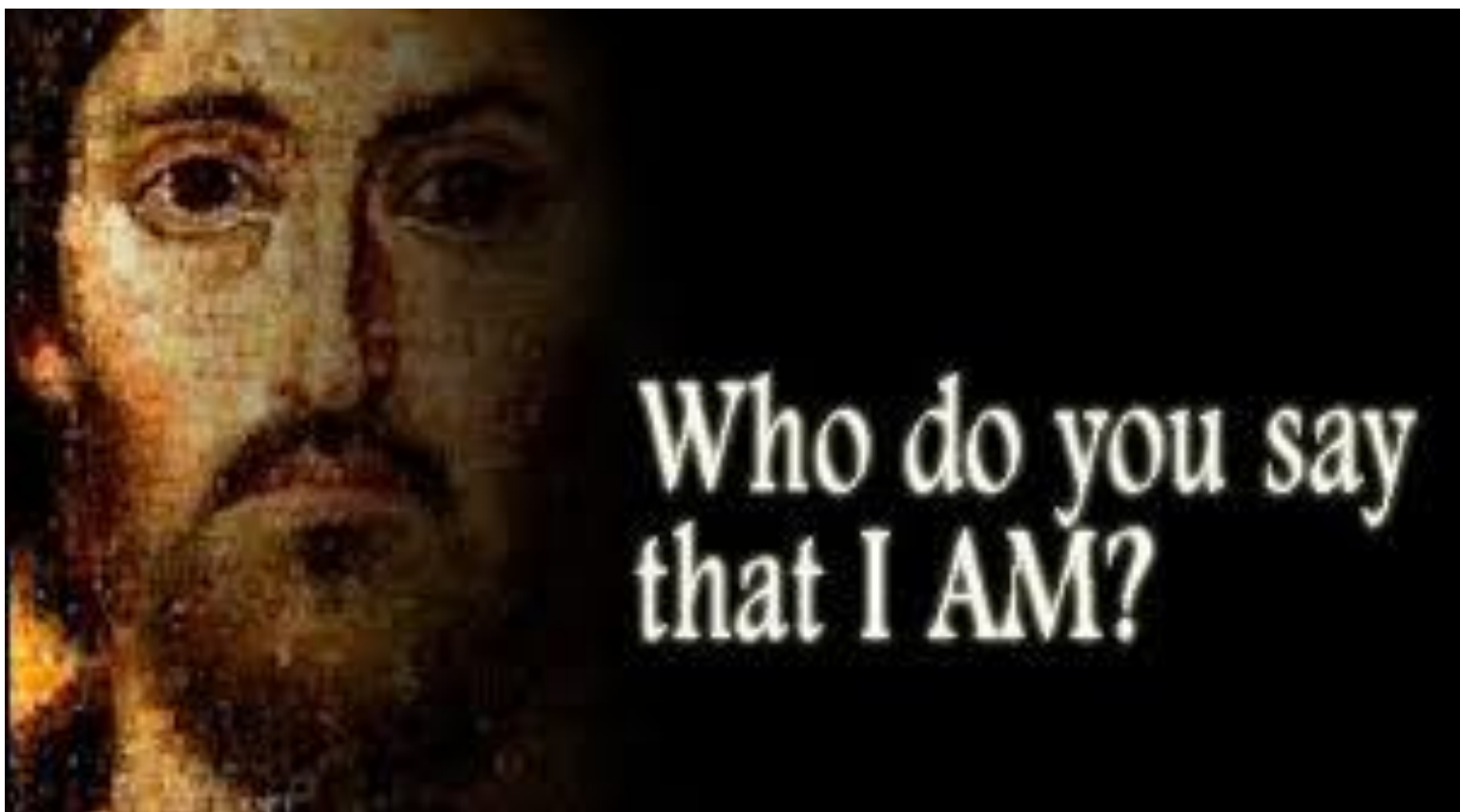
- The Gospels are not a biography but the “Good News” of the life and mission of Jesus.
- Stages of development of the Gospels:
 - ❖ There were remembered words and deeds from Jesus’ human life.
 - ❖ The telling and development of those stories as remembered by the first Christian communities.
 - ❖ The stories were collected and put together into the final text of the Gospels.

Structural Parts of each Gospel

- Each Gospel begins with a faith statement of who Jesus really is.
- Each Gospel presents an account of Jesus' ministry and teaching – from his baptism to his death.
- Each Gospel proclaims God's ultimate vindication of Jesus by raising him from the dead.



The “historical Jesus” must be balanced with the faith perspectives of the living Church tradition.



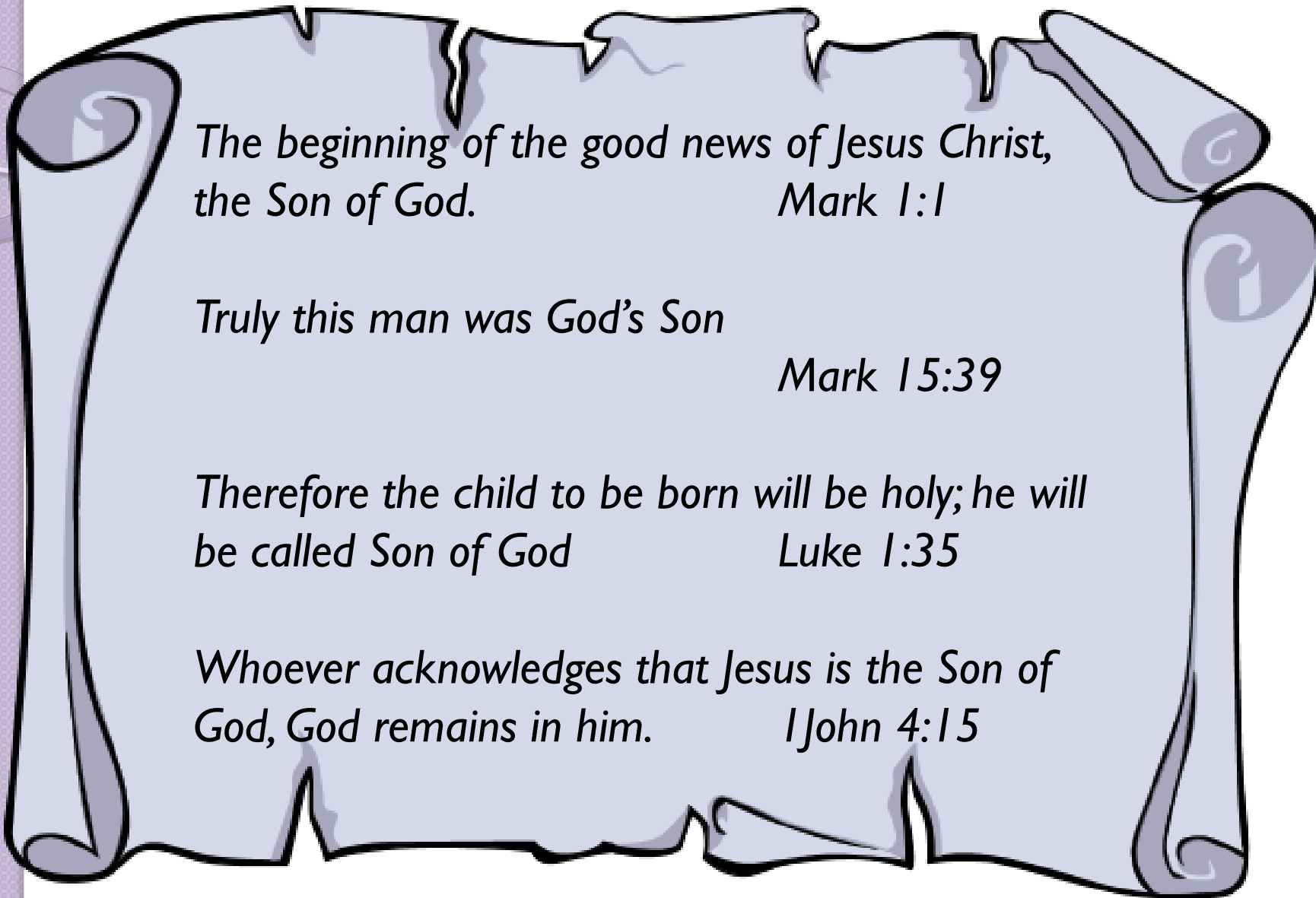
Who do you say
that I AM?





Son of God

- One of the most significant titles for Jesus.
- Conveys a unique sense of divinity in Jesus.
- Describes Jesus' relationship with God as completely different from any other human being.
- His Sonship was not given or bestowed but flowed from the very core of his being.
- A divine filial relationship.



*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ,
the Son of God.*

Mark 1:1

Truly this man was God's Son

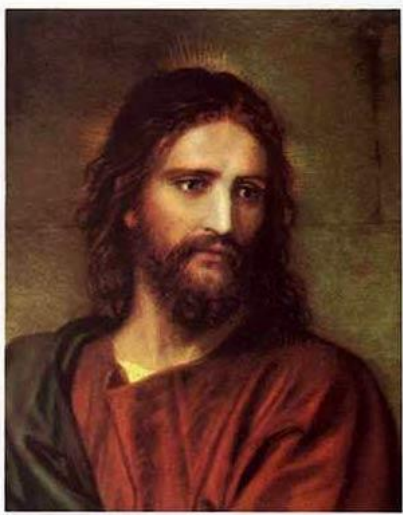
Mark 15:39

*Therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will
be called Son of God*

Luke 1:35

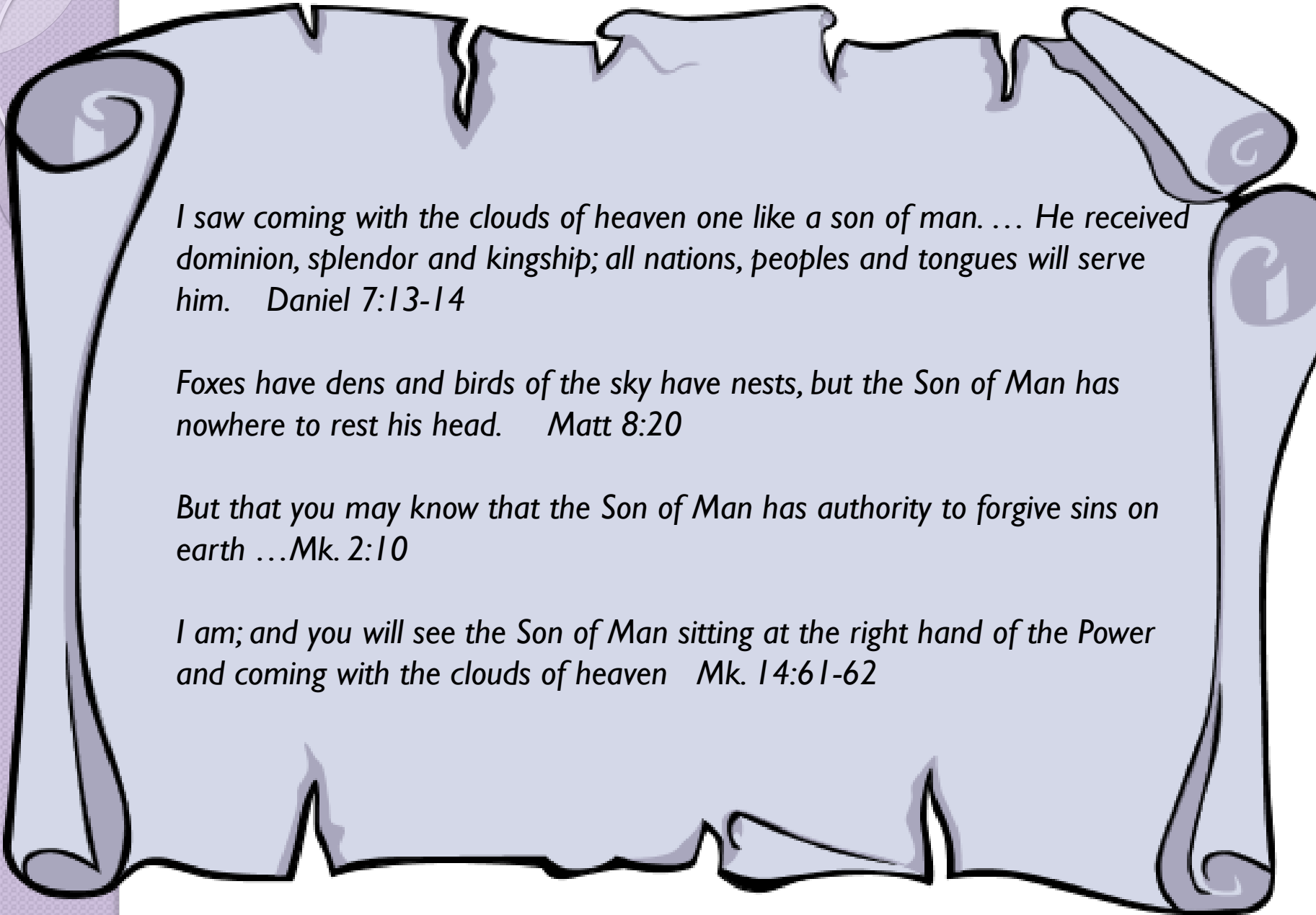
*Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of
God, God remains in him.*

1 John 4:15



Son of Man

- Jesus referred to himself as “Son of Man” 85 times in the New Testament.
- Refers to the humility and human activity of Jesus.
- It also refers to his future role in divine judgment.



I saw coming with the clouds of heaven one like a son of man. ... He received dominion, splendor and kingship; all nations, peoples and tongues will serve him. Daniel 7:13-14

Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head. Matt 8:20

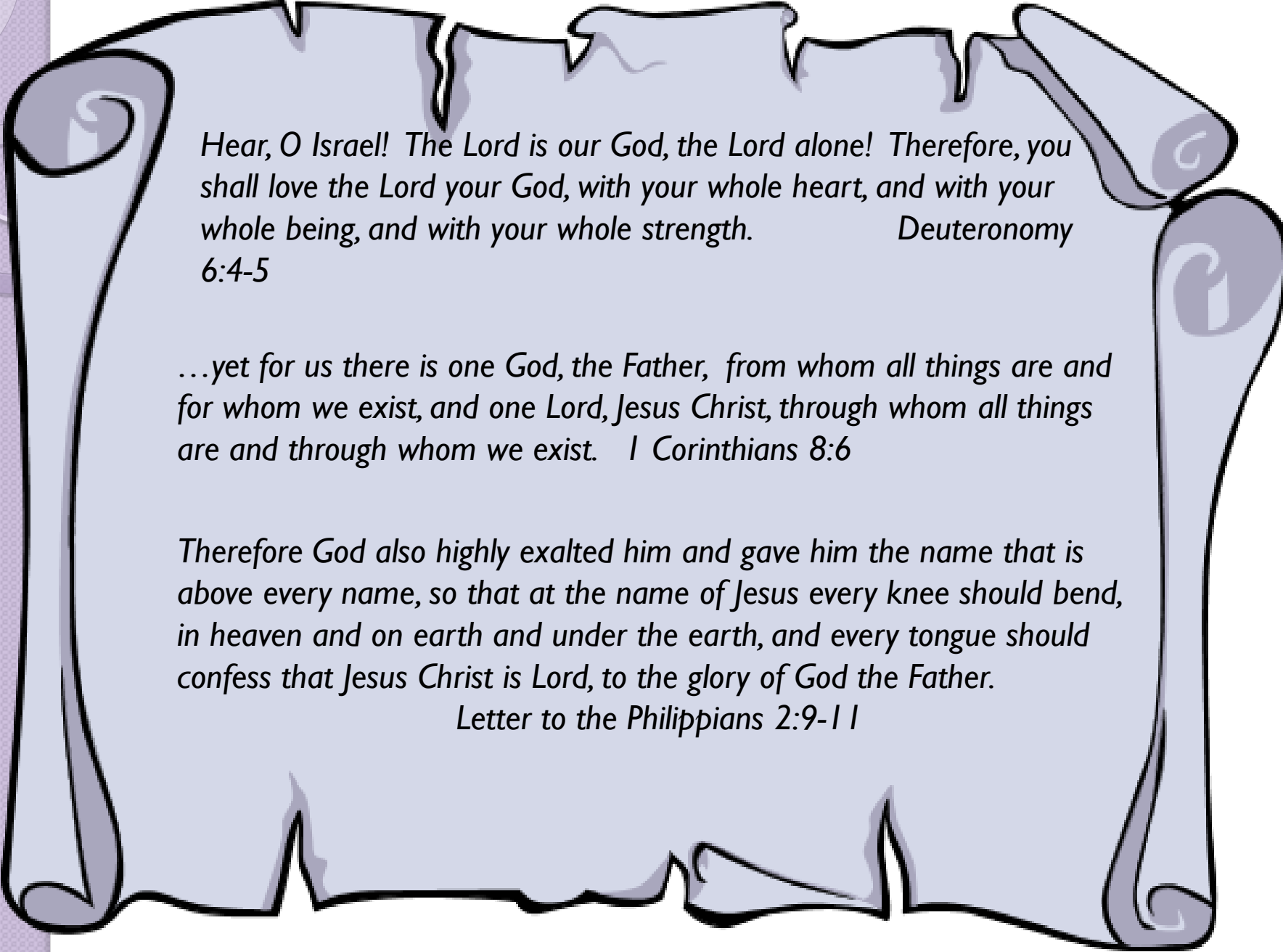
But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth ...Mk. 2:10

I am; and you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven Mk. 14:61-62



Lord - *Kyrios*

- Originally a title of respect meaning “Sir” or “Master.”
- Early Christians viewed Jesus as “the Lord” or the Greek word “Kyrios” which means God.
- The number of times “Lord or Kyrios” was used in the New Testament indicates how natural it was for the early Christians to refer to Jesus in this way.
- The title (and also the Greek form) is widely used in our modern day liturgy – *Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.*



Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone! Therefore, you shall love the Lord your God, with your whole heart, and with your whole being, and with your whole strength. Deuteronomy 6:4-5

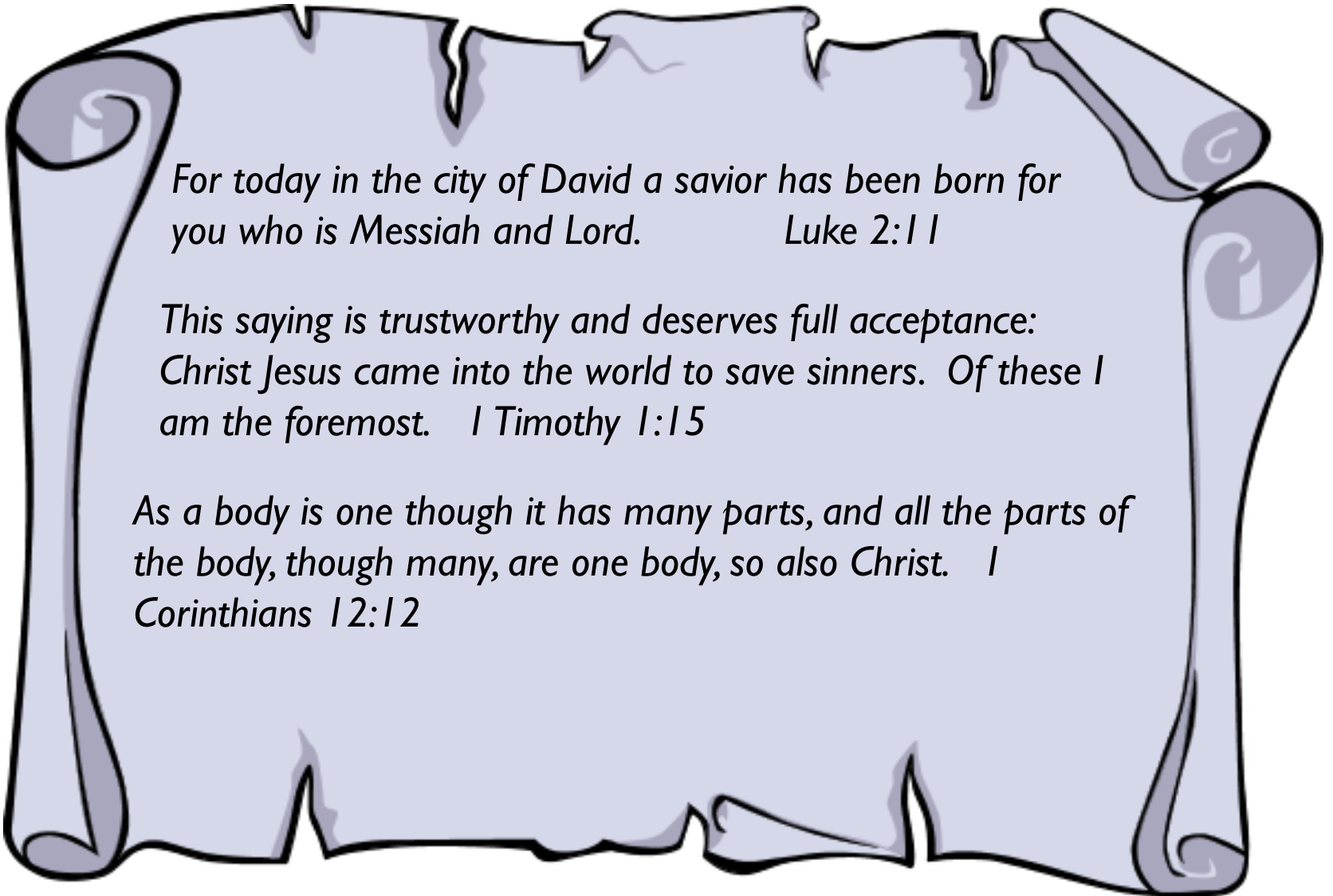
...yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom all things are and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things are and through whom we exist. I Corinthians 8:6

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
Letter to the Philippians 2:9-11



Christ

- Title indicating Jesus as the “Anointed One” or “Messiah.”
- The one who would free Israel from all foreign oppressors.
- Judged to be an inadequate title alone so it gradually became part of Jesus’ regular name – Jesus Christ.



*For today in the city of David a savior has been born for
you who is Messiah and Lord. Luke 2:11*

*This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of these I
am the foremost. 1 Timothy 1:15*

*As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of
the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. 1
Corinthians 12:12*



Lamb of God

- For centuries, the lamb was the main sacrificed animal in the Temple.
- The lamb played an important part in the Exodus – the blood of the lamb smeared on the doorpost of the Israelites so the angel of death would pass over.
- The lamb was to have no blemish and none of his bones would be broken.
- Jesus is the perfect sacrifice offered to God.

Though harshly treated, he submitted and did not open his mouth: Like a lamb led to slaughter or a sheep silent before shearers, he did not open his mouth. Isaiah 53:7

*...Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.
John 1:29*

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then the other one who was crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. John 19:32-33

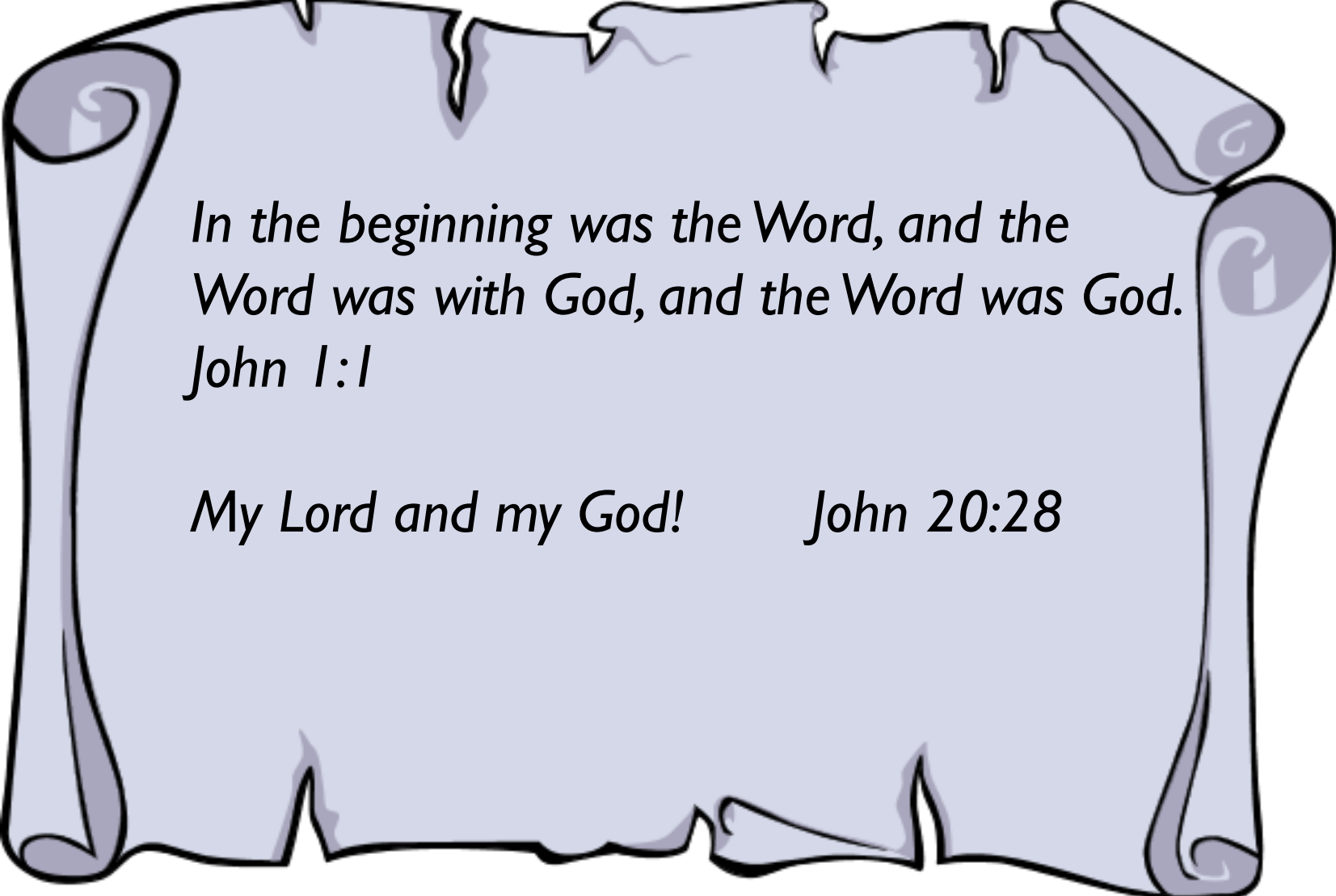
Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough, inasmuch as you are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. 1Cor 5:7

...but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb. 1 Peter 1:19



God

- *The acknowledgement of Jesus as God required the expansion of the traditional notion of one God.*
- *The relationship between Jesus and God became Son and Father (and later Spirit) in one God.*
- *Christology leads directly to the Trinity.*



*In the beginning was the Word, and the
Word was with God, and the Word was God.
John 1:1*

My Lord and my God! John 20:28

Confusion About Christ




Christian “Factions”

- Christians with strong ties to their Jewish roots and practiced many Jewish customs.
- Followers of Marcion
- Gnostic Christians
- Followers of Arius of Alexandria
- Followers of Pelagius
- Nestorianism




The Ecumenical Councils

- In 313 the Roman emperor Constantine made Catholic Christianity a legal religion.
- As the Christian Church became an important social factor, the bishops needed a clear, unified statement of belief, purpose and practice.

- 
- Council of Nicea – AD 325
 - Council of Constantinople – AD 381
 - Council of Ephesus – AD 431
 - Council of Chalcedon – AD 451

The Life and History of Jesus



- 
- As we come to know the humanity of Jesus, we discover the full value of human life, the loves of our life, and the value of a vocation.
 - We come to know Jesus as the first disciples and apostles knew him.
 - First, as teacher and master.
 - Second, as the power of God in him.
 - Third, as the very mystery of God Incarnate.

Infancy Narratives



Infancy Narratives - Historically Correct?

- The infancy narratives, found only in Matthew and Luke, are not an historical account of Jesus' birth but rather, they answer the theological question of "who is Jesus of Nazareth?"
- The infancy narratives do contain some history in the sense that we understand history today.
- We do know historically that Jesus was born during the reign of King Herod.
- But we are unable to verify historically that Joseph and Mary migrated to Bethlehem because of a census.
- The authors wove history and theology together to present us with proclamations of faith rather than with news accounts.
- Historically speaking, we do not know all of the "facts" surrounding Jesus' birth. However, the infancy narratives teach us the absolute *truth* about the identity of Jesus of Nazareth.



Major Events in the Life of Jesus



The Baptism

- Accounts of Jesus' baptism as the beginning of his public ministry are in all four gospels.
- Through his baptism, Jesus accepted a call from God.
- The key moment of Jesus' filial awareness of his special and unique relationship with the God of Israel.
- His summons to accept the task (vocation) of the suffering servant of Isaiah.

The Temptations

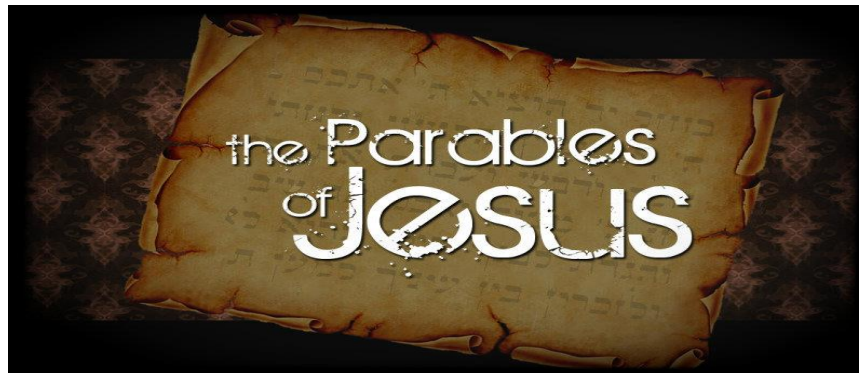


- Real temptations to be struggled against that demonstrate the full humanness of Jesus.
- Gospel accounts place the temptations immediately after Jesus' acceptance of his mission in Baptism.
- Possibly a condensed account that summarizes what Jesus faced throughout his life.
- There are parallels to the great temptations of the people of Israel.
- Show the fulfillment of Israel's history in the life of Jesus.



Proclaiming the Kingdom of God

- Proclaiming God's kingdom was central to Jesus' mission in life.
- Jesus was the ultimate teacher of that kingdom through the use of parables, miracles, and symbolic gestures.
- Both followers and opponents called him "teacher" or "rabbi," who is someone who has taken up the task of preaching spiritual renewal and has been approved by God and the people.
- God's "kingdom" happens where and when God's love, justice, peace, and communion dominate the people's thoughts and actions.



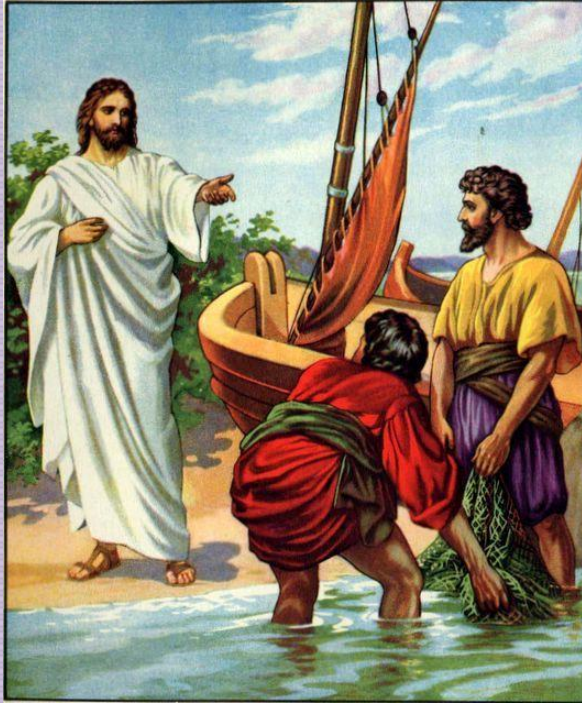
- Parables constitute a special style of teaching common to the first-century Jewish world.
- A method of teaching to make a point in a certain way – it wasn't so much what Jesus said but how he said it.
- Parables are metaphors that enable the hearer into a new way of looking at things.
- Parables begin in common human experience and assumptions – and then explode those assumptions shattering many commonly accepted views.

Jesus' Healing Ministry



- Jesus was a public healer and healed in a way that was considered remarkable.
- Healing is a sign that the presence and power of God is present and operative.
- His healing ministry witnessed how God's salvation extends to the total person, spirit and body.
- Human suffering touched Jesus very deeply showing the very compassion of God flowing through him to human lives.
- True compassion mirrors the heart of God.

The Disciples



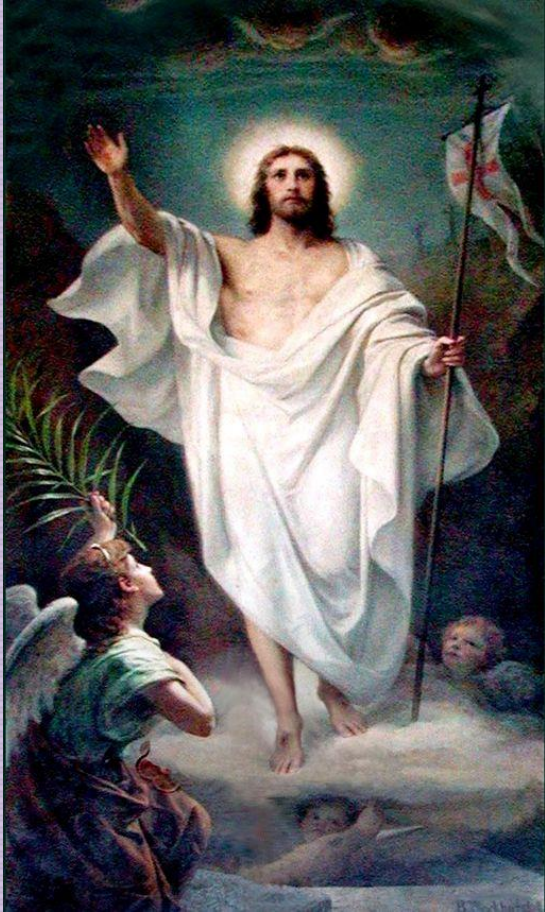
- The disciples were distinct from the majority of Jesus' followers.
- Jesus called his disciples individually and he demanded a complete and immediate response.
- The disciples entered into a total relationship with Jesus requiring a brand new and profoundly radical meaning to a person's life.
- Discipleship involved a lifetime following and included suffering.
- Jesus deliberately sought out those who would continue to spread his mission of proclaiming the kingdom of God.
- Jesus confirmed his followers by sharing a last meal with them before his death.

The Passion and Death of Jesus



- The most important event of Jesus' life history.
- Gave witness to his full humanity.
- The brutal and shameful death of Jesus constituted an embarrassment and challenge for his followers.
- Jesus' knowledge and willing acceptance of his death as part of the realization of God's kingdom.
- Jesus died for the salvation of those who believed in him.
- The act of self-giving that summed up Jesus' whole life and mission.

The Resurrection



- The event that first revealed God's total acceptance and exaltation of Jesus and his ministry.
- Belief in the Resurrection forms the basis of Christian faith.
- Resurrection faith defines the origin, core, and example of what it means to be a Christian.
- *Although the Resurrection was an historical event that could be verified by the sign of the empty tomb and by the reality of the apostles' encounters with the risen Christ, still it remains at the very heart of the mystery of faith as something that transcends and surpasses history.*

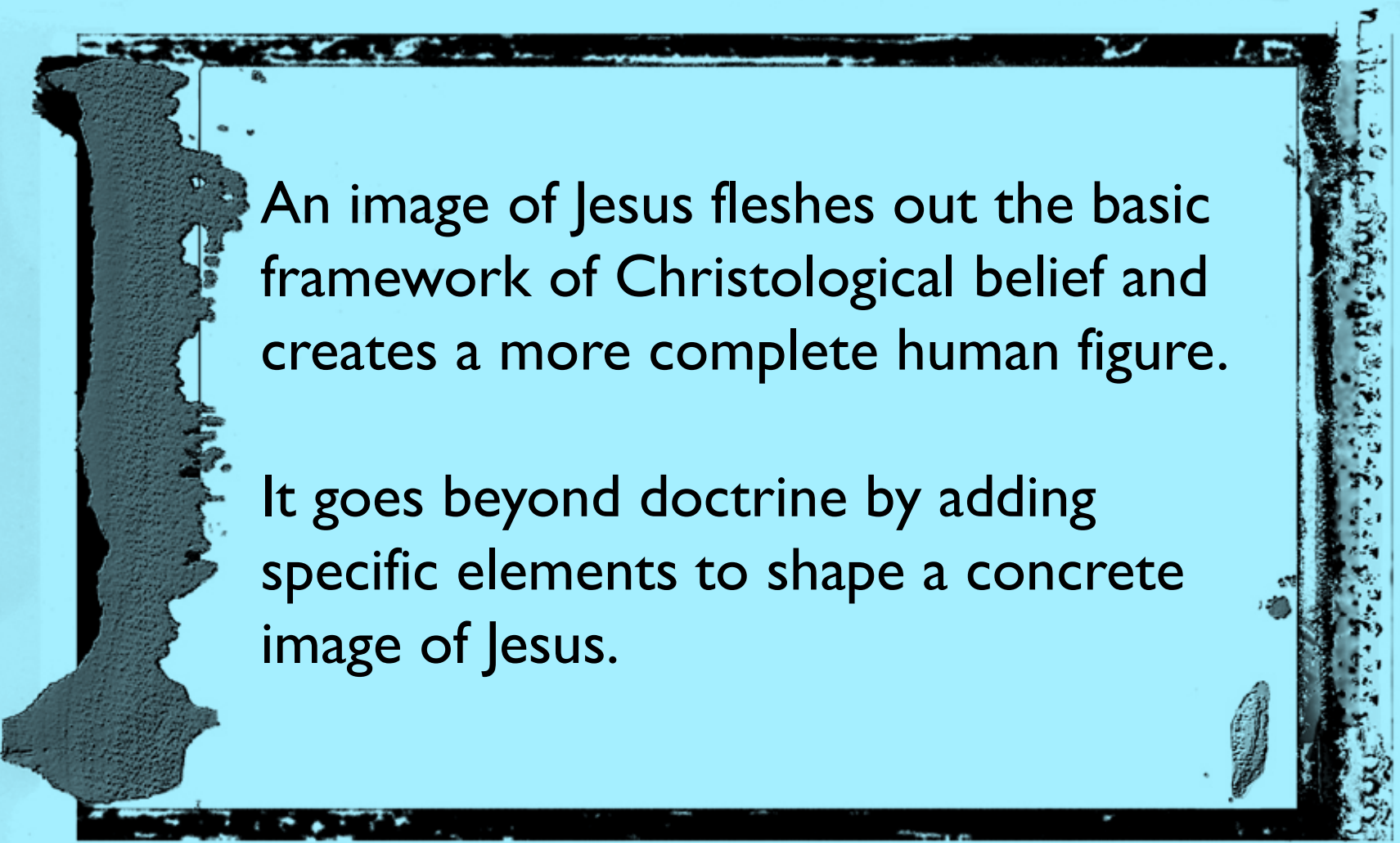


The Paschal Mystery

The Paschal mystery has two aspects; by his death, Christ liberates us from sin; by his Resurrection, he opens for us the way to a new life. This new life is above all justification that reinstates us in God's grace, "so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."

CCC 654

Images of Jesus Christ in Catholic Spirituality



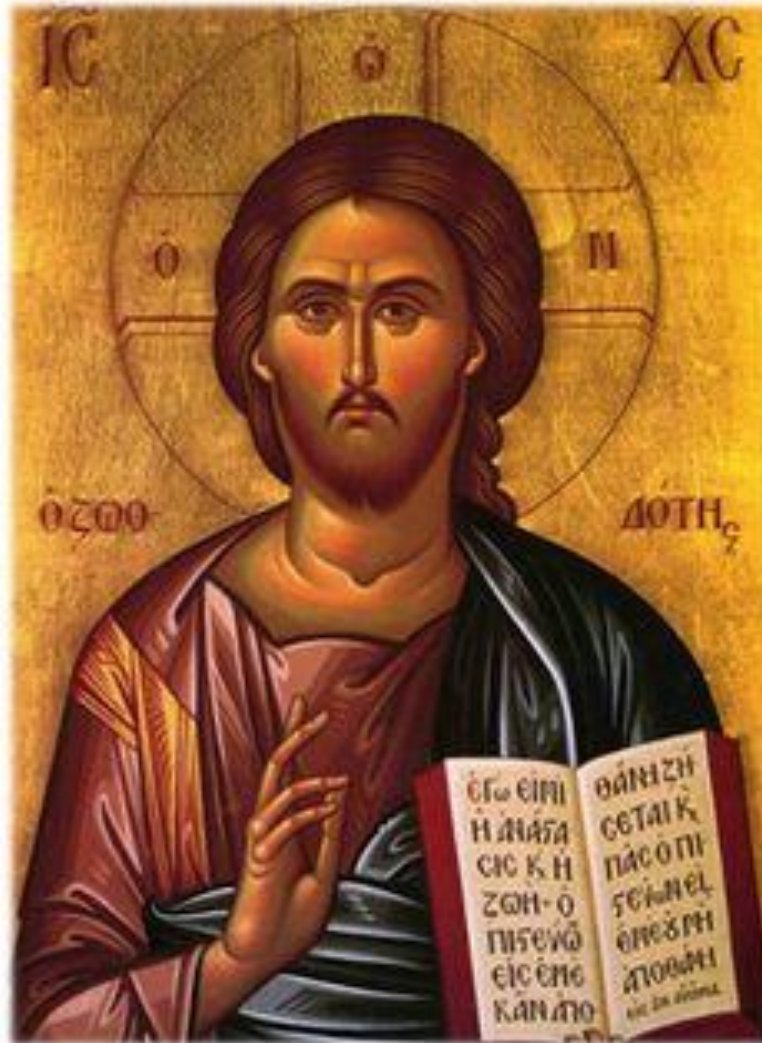
An image of Jesus fleshes out the basic framework of Christological belief and creates a more complete human figure.

It goes beyond doctrine by adding specific elements to shape a concrete image of Jesus.

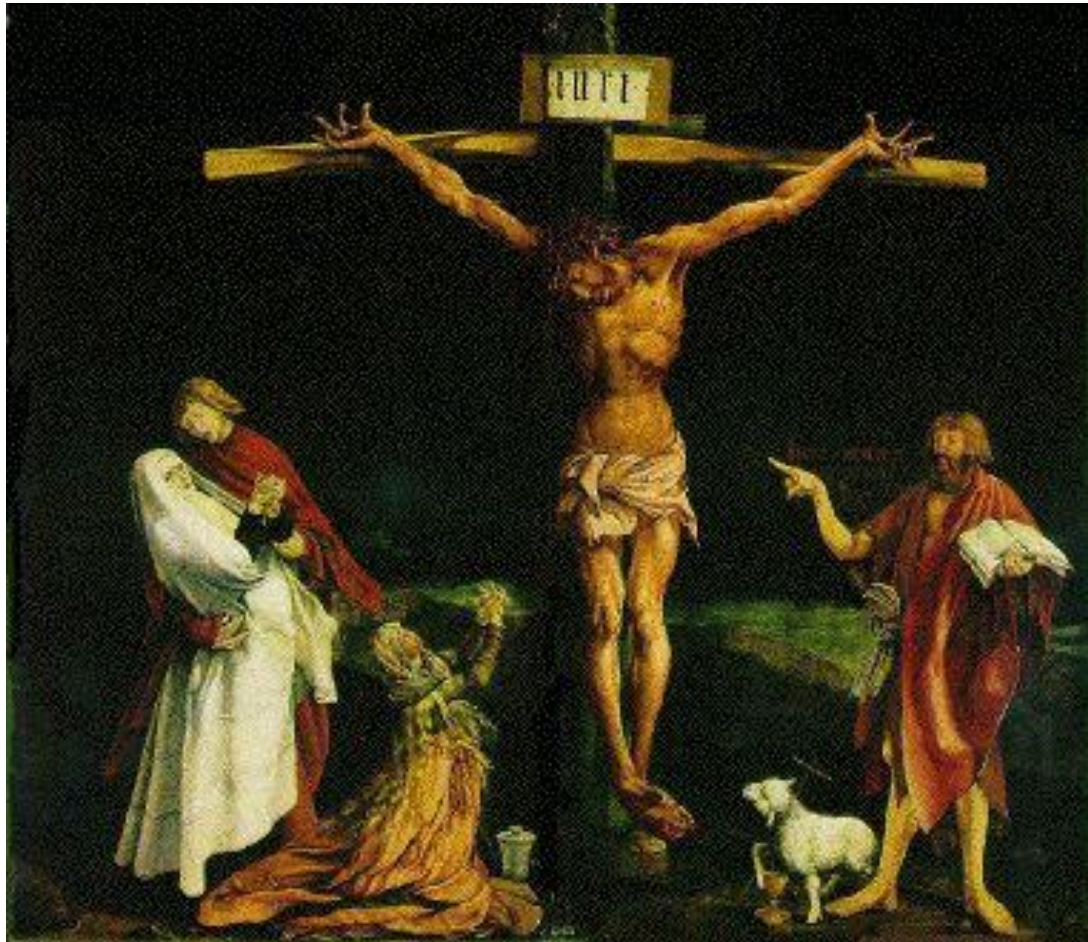
Sacred Heart

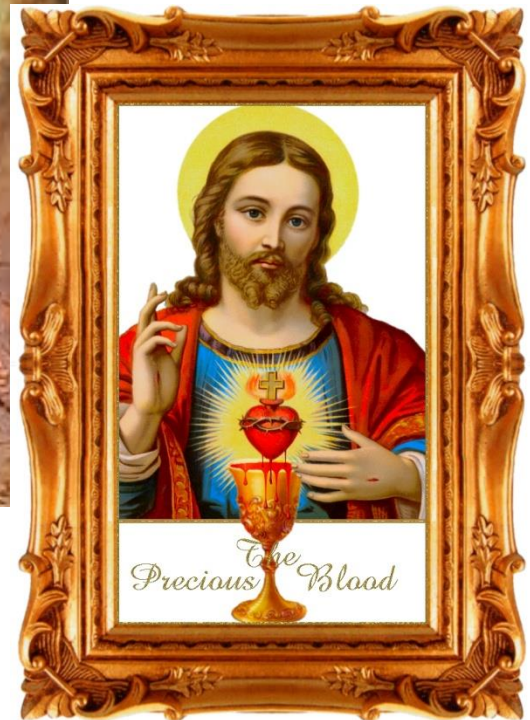


Incarnate Word of God

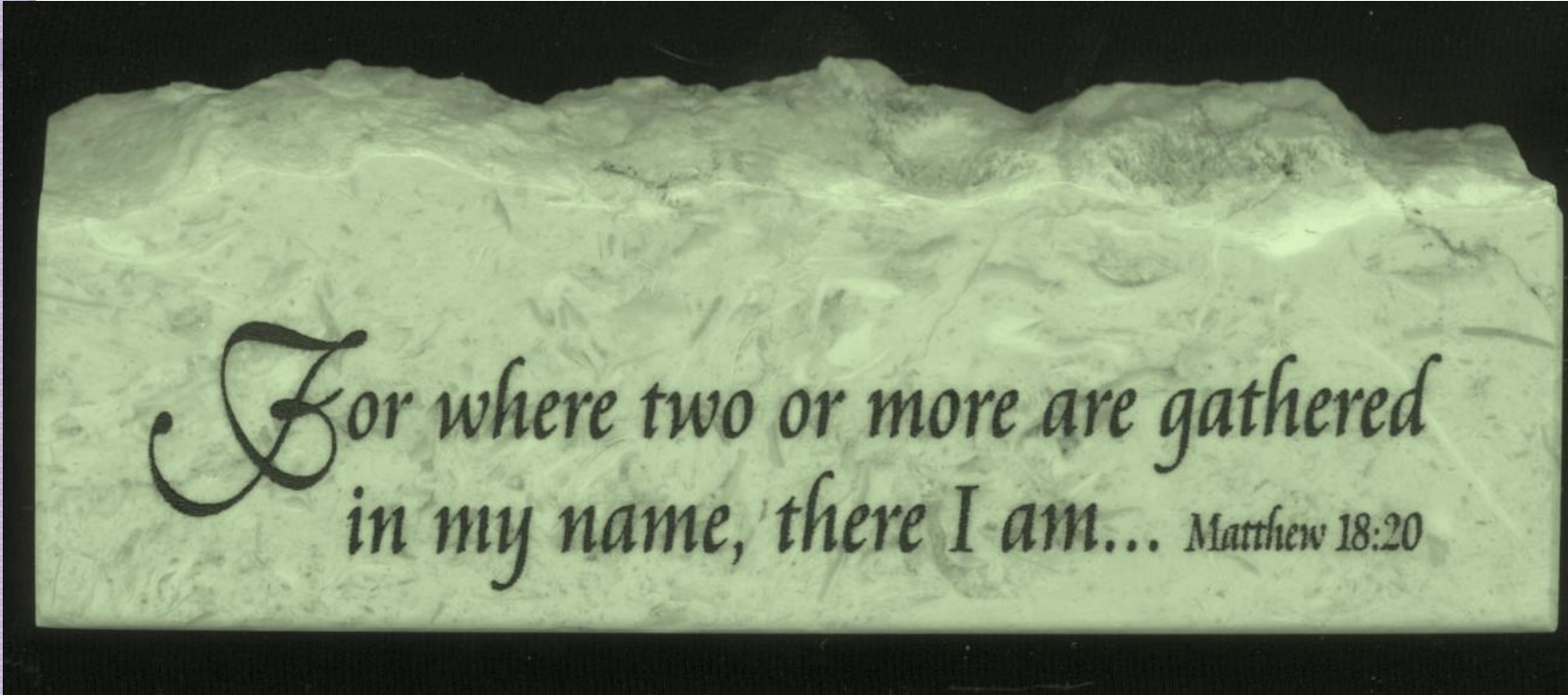


Suffering Crucified Savior





Jesus Christ with Us Today

A rectangular piece of rough, light-colored stone, possibly limestone or marble, with a black border. The stone has a textured, uneven surface with some darker spots and a small indentation near the top center. The text is carved into the stone in a black, elegant script font.

*For where two or more are gathered
in my name, there I am... Matthew 18:20*

The Joy and Grace of Knowing Jesus

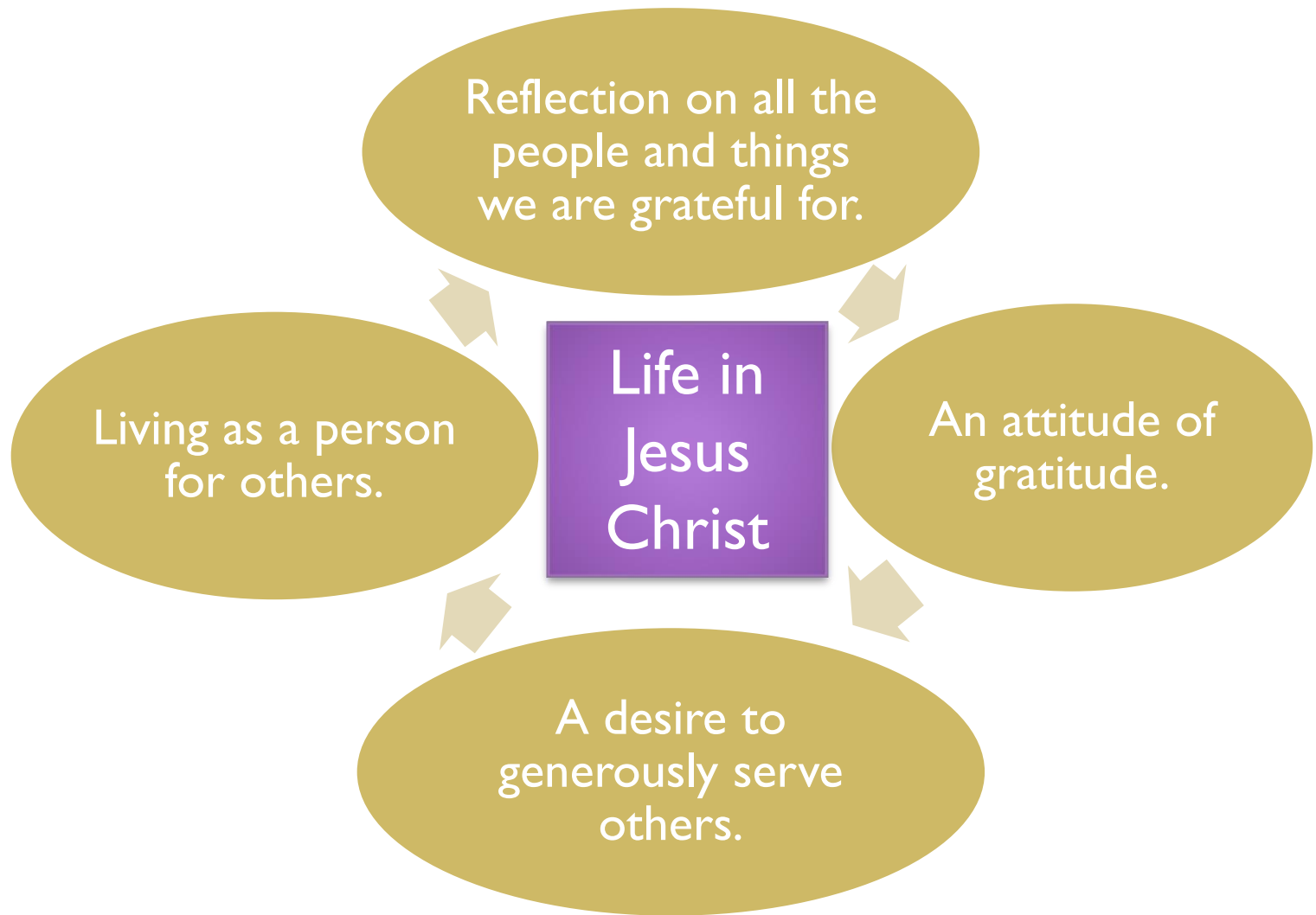


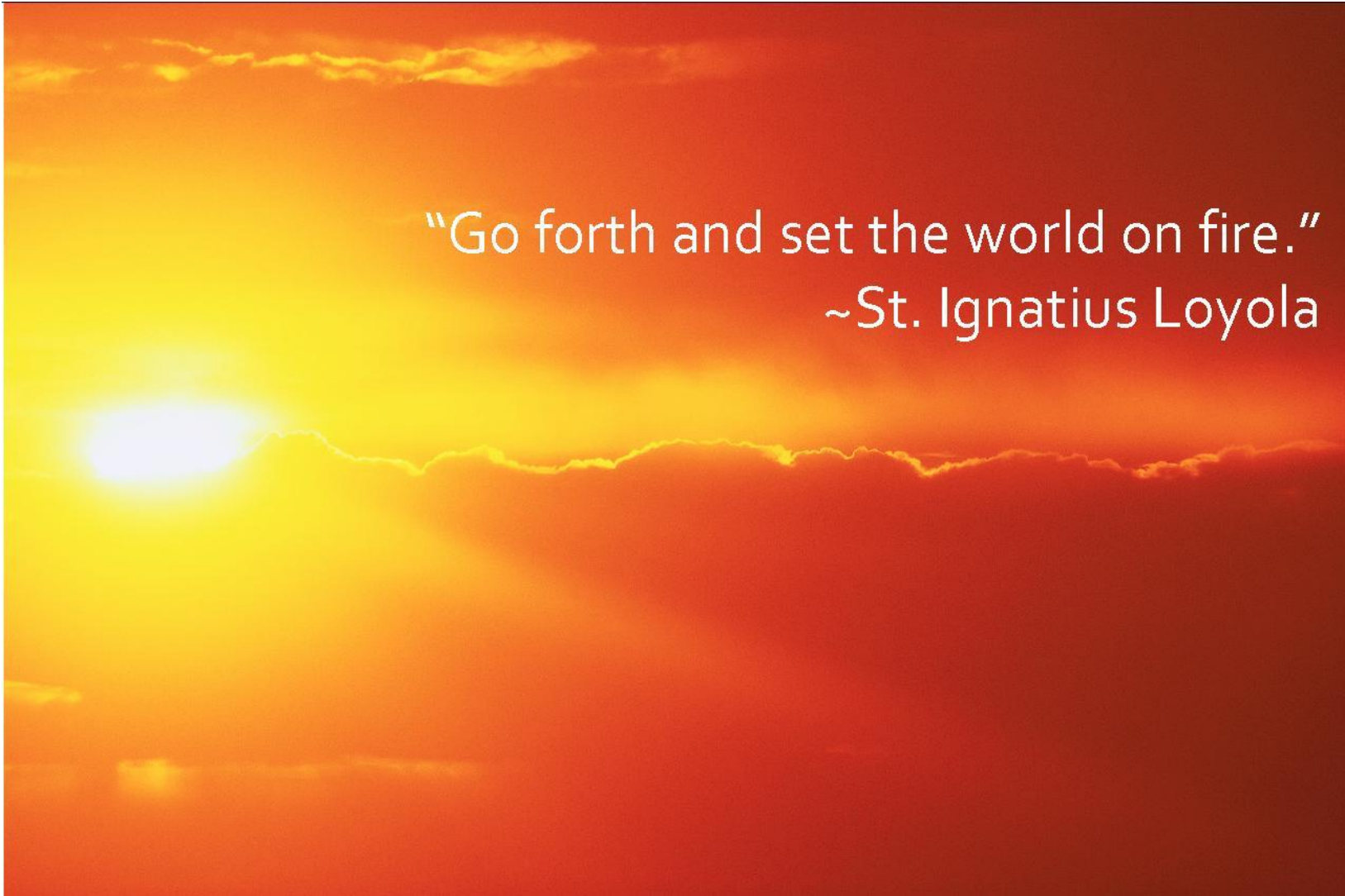


Our Basket of Abundance

Christ invites us to.....

- Awaken our deepest desires.
- Develop an awareness of our own desirability in God's eyes.
- Experience God's nearness.
- Deepen our desire to be actively involved in God's work.
- Experience intimacy with God.
- Stop trying to save ourselves.
- Seek out others with whom to share the journey.
- Allow God to color our world.
- Profoundly revere each person as he or she is.
- Give thanks.
- Live as a person for others.
- Navigate through the gray areas of life.

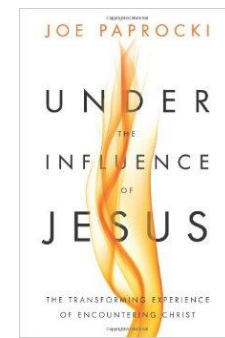
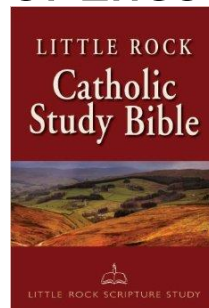
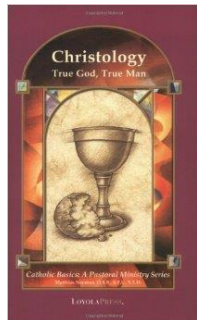
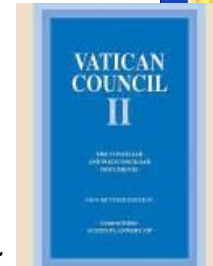
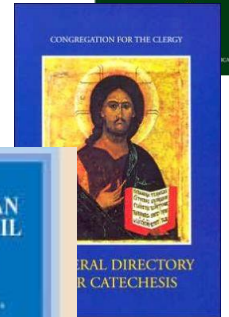
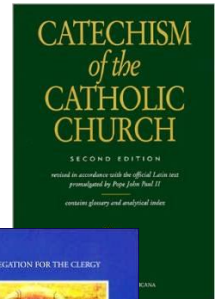




“Go forth and set the world on fire.”
~St. Ignatius Loyola

Christology Resources

- ❖ 2nd Edition of Catholic Catechism, 2000
- ❖ General Directory for Catechesis – 1971
- ❖ Vatican II Documents
- ❖ Christology: True God, True Man, Loyola Press, 2002
- ❖ Under the Influence of Jesus: The Transforming Experience of Encountering Jesus, Joe Paprocki, 2014



- ❖ The Bible

DIOCESE OF BOISE OFFICE OF CATECHESIS



Bottom row l-r: Sr. Chela Gonzalez, Director of the Office of Catechesis; Cathy Wheaton, Administrative Assistant & Resource Center Coordinator

Top row l-r: Santiago Robles, Coordinator of Adult & Family Catechesis; Jackie Hopper, Coordinator of Children's Catechesis; Chris Kreslins, Coordinator of Youth & Young Adult Catechesis

We're here to serve – and only a phone call or email away!

Reflection Questions

- What are some ways in which the hope of the Resurrection are lived out in today's world?
- What image of Jesus from the Gospels would you consider to be most significant in today's contemporary society?
- How do you maintain a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?



Basic Catechist Certification

Upcoming Webinar Session

Fundamental Theology

Thursday, April 9

6 pm PST, 7 pm MST

Closing Prayer

Soul of Christ, make me holy.

Body of Christ, be my salvation.

Blood of Christ, let me drink your wine.

Water flowing from the side of Christ, wash me clean.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

Kind Jesus, hear my prayer.

Hide me within your wounds.

And keep me close to you.

Defend me from the evil enemy.

And call me at the hour of my death.

To the fellowship of your saints.

That I might sing your praise with them.
for all eternity.

Amen.