



SERIES OVERVIEW

For this year's Summer Fest, we will explore some weighty concepts in age-appropriate ways. Each week in July we will preach three short messages designed to explain the person of Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit, the grace of God, and the Church (a.k.a. the three members of the trinity and us!).

Building off the popular expression, "Explain it like I'm five," one message will be geared towards 5-year-olds (3-4 minutes), one message will be geared towards 15-year-olds (6 minutes), and one message will be geared towards 50-year-olds (10 minutes). As you might expect, each message will increase in complexity and nuance. However, I expect even the kid-oriented messages to be fruitful for older adults newer in their faith and for the adult-oriented messages to still speak to those who are younger.

WEEK 1 - THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST OVERVIEW

In this message, we will explore the nature of Jesus Christ as both fully human and fully divine. How is it possible for our savior to be both?

- **Five-years-old:** Like a star athlete choosing to play wearing a medieval suit of armor, Jesus was still fully God but chose to limit his God-like powers to enter our world and become like us. That's how much God loves you! (John 1:14)
- **Fifteen-years-old:** It was important for Christ to be like us in every respect so that he could faithfully represent us before God. He understands our struggles and pains and because of this can help us when we are struggling. (Hebrews 2:17-18)
- **Fifty-years-old:** A great way to understand the incarnation of Christ is called *kenotic* Christology (based on the Greek word *kenosis*, "emptying"). Christ willingly empties himself of his divine attributes, privileges, and powers, while maintaining his eternality and perfect fellowship with the Father and Spirit. How can such a profound sacrifice not lead us to absolute awe and heartfelt worship? (Philippians 2:6-11)

Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being.

Philippians 2:6-7

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever experienced a time in your life when you felt like no one understood what you were going through? Describe what that was like for you.
2. How would you explain the fact that Jesus is fully human and fully divine? Why is this fact important?
3. Read [Philippians 2:5-8](#).
 - a. Why did Jesus become a human like us?
 - b. What does it mean to you, that Jesus is like you?
4. Share some examples of how we could be more "self-emptying" to reflect Jesus to others.