

Study Guide: The Person of Jesus

To study the topic on the Church's teaching about the person of Jesus, consult the paragraphs indicated in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC). **Note that the "In Brief" sections of the Catechism may help answer the questions below.**

1. The Catechism gives four reasons why the Son of God became Man. What are they? (CCC 456-460)

2. What does the Catechism call the "distinctive sign of Christian faith"? What Scripture passages does the Catechism cite to support this statement? (CCC 461-463)

3. How does the Catechism summarize the following heresies that attacked the complete humanity and the complete divinity of Jesus, and what was the Church's response to each? (CCC464-467):
 - Gnostic Docetism

 - Arianism

 - Nestorianism

 - Monophysitism

4. How many persons are there in Jesus? How many natures? How many wills? (CCC 468-469,475)

5. There is controversy these days over how much the human nature of Jesus could know. What does Scripture say about Jesus' growth in knowledge? How does the Catechism discuss this issue? (CCC 471-474)

6. On what grounds does the Church allow Christians to draw pictures of the face of Jesus and create crucifixes? What is the attitude to icons expressed here? (CCC 476-477)

7. The Catechism remarks that the entire life of Jesus is full of mystery. It then calls these mysteries by three names: revelation, redemption, and recapitulation. What do these words mean in this context? (CCC 516-518)

8. What does his circumcision say about the person of Jesus? Comment on what the presentation in the temple and the hidden years in Nazareth say about him. (CCC 527, 529, 531-532)

9. Why was Jesus baptized, since he didn't need to repent for anything? (CCC 535-537)

10. What does the passage, "For our sake God made him to be sin" mean? (CCC 602-603)

11. The Hebrew word for Passover is *pesach*, from which we get our word *paschal*. What was the Last Supper? Why did Jesus institute the Eucharist then? (CCC 610-611)

12. What is the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross? (CCC 601, 608, 613-618)

13. What is the meaning of his resurrection? (CCC 651-655)

14. For your own meditation: In what ways is Jesus a challenge to you?