

COME TO JESUS

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Jesus possesses both divine and human nature united in one person. He is 100% God and 100% man. These truths about the person of Jesus are essential for us to know because it enables us to understand that Jesus' full deity places Him in a position to completely redeem mankind from sin and give eternal life, while His full humanity places Him in a position to fully represent mankind. Now, for most of us, we might not have any problem understanding the deity of Jesus, but we might wonder, "Is the humanity of Jesus enough for Him to understand our pains and struggles as human beings?" To what extent is Jesus' humanity our humanity as well? Let's look at the Scriptures!

The Birth of Jesus. Yes, the conception of Jesus is something only for Him for He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, but His birth is the same as everyone else's. He came to earth just as any human being did. When you think about it, His birth is one thing that should enable us to grasp that He is human just as we are. Aside from His humanity, His birth also shows His humility. He humbled himself to be born into this world (Phil. 2:6-7). The Growth of Jesus. Just like any human being, Jesus went through childhood and puberty – and experienced

all the physical changes that every human being goes through (Luke 2:40, 52). Being a baby, he became dependent on the nurturing of His parents. Growing up as a child, He remained under the parenthood of Mary and Joseph. His growth from infant to toddler, toddler to adolescence until He became adult is another evidence in itself that Jesus is as human as we are.

The Intellectual Limitations of Jesus. In Luke 2:52, it is not only His physiological growth that was mentioned, but also His intellectual growth. It says that Jesus "increased in wisdom". This shows that Jesus also has to go through the process of learning things, and yes, even His carpentry skills.

The Physical Limitations of Jesus. Human as He is, Jesus also experienced the limitations and weakness of the human body. As mentioned, His body needs to develop towards adulthood. Aside from this, He also experienced thirst (John 19:28) and hunger (Matt. the 4:2). There were also moments when His body also experienced weakness. We see this in Luke 23:26, where someone had to carry the cross probably because of the weakness He felt after all the beatings He received.

The Emotions of Jesus. Throughout His ministry on earth, we see in the Scriptures that He experienced emotions just like any of us. There were moments He felt troubled in spirit (John 12:27; 13:21), He felt sorrowful realizing the great suffering He would experience in His crucifixion (Matt. 26:38), and He also wept at the death of Lazarus (John 11:35).

And lastly, the Death of Jesus. His death is clear evidence that Jesus is as human as we are. From birth to death, Jesus was as human as we are. So, to answer the question, "Can Jesus relate to our pain?" The answer is a big YES! He sympathizes with our weakness and struggles, and understands the difficulty of temptation, yet He did not sin amidst experiencing temptation (Heb. 4:16).

And because of this truth, we can then come to Him as we are confident knowing that we will receive mercy and grace to help us. Come to Jesus! When we are in pain, come to Jesus! When we are lost, come to Jesus! When we feel hopeless, come to Jesus! When we don't know what to do, come to Jesus! COME TO JESUS! ✱