

## Lesson 1

### THE LIFE OF JESUS

1. Jesus is the Son of God .He was with God when God created this world and everything in it. Jesus left the glory of heaven and came to this world as a baby. His mother Mary gave birth to Jesus in a stable; she wrapped him in a cloth and laid him in a manger. Jesus the Son of God was not born into a wealthy family in a big house, but he was born in a very humble place. The first people who came to see Jesus were village shepherds. They rejoiced and thanked God for sending Jesus (Luke 2:1-20).
2. Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth. When he was 30 years old, he left his home, mother and brothers, and was baptized by John the Baptist. While he was in the water praying, the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus in the form of a dove. A voice from heaven said, "You are my own dear Son and I am pleased with you" Luke 3:21-22.
3. Jesus left the River Jordan, and the Holy Spirit led him into the desert where he was tempted by the devil for 40 days. After this time Jesus began teaching, preaching, healing the sick, and performing many miracles. Crowds of people came to see Jesus and hear him speak. People listened intently as he spoke with power and authority. Jesus told many stories from every day life in his teaching, for he wanted the people to understand God's love for them. The power of God was very evident in the life of Jesus as he performed many miracles.
4. Luke 8:22-25. One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples on Lake Galilee. As they sailed, Jesus fell asleep. Suddenly there came a big storm and everyone was in great danger, but Jesus kept on sleeping. The frightened disciples woke Jesus. Jesus stood up and commanded the stormy winds and water to be calm. The storm stopped and everything became calm and peaceful. The disciples were amazed, but still very frightened. They said to each other, "Who is this man? He gives orders to the winds and waves and they obey him!"
5. Luke 8:26-35. One day as Jesus came to a town, a man controlled by demons, came running to him. This man was wild and could not be bound even with chains. He ran around naked and often lived in the burial caves. When he saw Jesus he threw himself at the feet of Jesus and cried out, Jesus, Son of the most High God! What do you want with me?" Jesus commanded the evil spirits to leave the man, and they went into a herd of pigs. The pigs then rushed down the mountain, over the cliff and into a lake where they drowned. The man was set free from the demons. He became calm, his mind was clear, he put on some clothes, and he listened to Jesus.
6. Luke 9:10..17. Another day thousands of people gathered to listen to Jesus teaching. They had been there for a long time, and the sun was setting, and they were hungry. The disciples asked Jesus to send the people home, but Jesus said, "You give them something to eat. " The only food they had was five loaves of bread and two fish. Jesus took the bread and fish, looked up to heaven and thanked God. He then gave the food to the disciples to distribute to the people. God blessed the food, and 5000 people had enough to eat and there was still food left over.
7. Jesus ministered for 3 years and he knew that his work on earth was almost finished, and that he would die and return to heaven. Jesus was burdened and he went to pray by himself. He knew God wanted him to die to take away the sins of men, women and children. Jesus did not run away from this suffering but said, "Father, if you will, take this cup of suffering away from me, Not my will, however, but your will be done" Luke 22:42. Later a group of men, led by Judas, arrested Jesus and took him to the High Priest.
8. Jesus was brought to court before the High Priest and Jewish leaders. They asked Jesus, " Are you the Son of God?" Jesus answered, "you say that I am" Luke 22:70. They brought him to the Roman Governor, who felt Jesus did not deserve to die but the people insisted. (Luke 23:20.22). Jesus was taken away, nailed to a cross and crucified. While hanging on the cross, Jesus said, "Forgive them, Father. They don't know what they are doing" Luke 23:34. Some people laughed, and jeered at Jesus while he was hanging on the cross.
9. After Jesus died some followers of Jesus took his body off the cross, wrapped it in linen and placed it in a tomb, which was then closed with a large stone. They all returned to their homes feeling very sad. Early on Sunday morning, Jesus rose from the dead and became ALIVE again. The disciples and the women who had followed Jesus rejoiced. For 40 days, Jesus met with them and taught them many things (1 Corinthians 15:3-6, Acts I :3).

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