

Big Idea: Jesus became one of us.

Primary Scripture: John 1:1-5, 14

CAPTURE (Why should students pay attention to and care about your message?)

- Artificial Intelligence used to be the stuff of science fiction.
 - Robots were either funny sidekicks like C-3PO and R2-D2 or straight-up villains like the Terminator.
 - But now it isn't not exactly fiction anymore.
- Most of you probably used AI this week.
 - Even if you didn't set out to, chances are you still interacted with AI without realizing it because
 - it's been woven into almost everything: your phone, your searches, and most of the apps you use every single day.
 - AI has changed how we live, learn, and create. It's reshaping entire industries.
 - You might actually be the last generation that remembers life **before** AI. For the kids coming up behind you, it'll just feel like it's always been part of the world.
- History has so many moments like this, game changers that shift how people think and live.
 - For people born in the 80s and 90s, it was the Internet. For people born a hundred years earlier, it was the telephone that changed everything. One day it took weeks (or even months) to send a letter from New York to California, and then, one day you could just call someone who lived over a thousand miles away.
 - As big as the telephone or the Internet or even AI are, there's one game-changing moment that rises above them all.
- That single, game-changing moment happened just over 2000 years ago, in a tiny Middle Eastern town a little less than ten miles outside of Jerusalem.
- That moment is what this series, ***Chaotic Christmas***, is all about: *the moment that God became one of us*.
- If God actually stepped into our world, we don't have to guess what He's like anymore. You can look at Jesus.

- People had caught glimpses of God before—through His power in creation, His faithfulness to His people, and His incredible miracles.
- Based on those experiences, many thought they had God all figured out. But then Jesus showed up and He didn't look anything like what they expected.
- But He was **exactly** what we needed.

SCRIPTURE (What does God's Word say?)

- There's an important theological word that means "Jesus showed up" for you to learn: **incarnation**.
- *Incarnation* means Jesus—who is fully God—took on a human body and lived a human life. God became one of us.
- In the very first chapter of the Gospel of John, we get one of the clearest descriptions of who Jesus really is.

¹ In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He existed in the beginning with God. ³ God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. ⁴ The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. (John 1:1-5 – NLT)

- Let's jump down to verse 14.

¹⁴ So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. (John 1:14 – NLT)

- John referred to Jesus as *the Word* because words reveal things.
 - When we speak, our words make our thoughts accessible to the people around us.
 - That's exactly what Jesus does—He makes God accessible.
- Jesus didn't *start* in a manger. John said that He was there "in the beginning." Before galaxies spun. Before history started being written. Before **anything** was.
- Jesus was both **with** God and **was** God. Plus, through Him, **everything** was created. Your breath? Your DNA? The stars you see when you look up at night? All of it was created through Him.

- Verse 14 says, “*The Word became human.*”
- The God who made **everything** became one of us. He got a body. He got hungry. He got tired. He laughed so hard his side hurt. He cried when His heart broke. He knew betrayal. He experienced joy. The Creator became *one of us*.
- God is “full of unfailing love and faithfulness.” That’s a love that doesn’t fail, doesn’t give up, and shows up when you least deserve it and most need it.

INSIGHTS (What might this Scripture mean?)

1. Jesus has always been God.

- Jesus didn’t *become* God somewhere along the way.
- He was already God before there was even a “before.”
- He’s not an *add-on*. He’s not just one more “good teacher” you can take or leave.
- He is God Himself. Jesus is all-powerful, all-knowing, greater than we could ever imagine... and that means He is worthy of our worship.

2. Jesus became one of us.

- Let’s look back at the first part of John 1:14.

¹⁴ So the Word became human and made his home among us. (John 1:14a – NLT)

- Have you ever felt misunderstood? Ever had friends ghost you? Ever been so drained you just wanted to hide from everyone? Jesus gets that because He also experienced it.
- But why would He do that? Because love doesn’t watch from the sidelines.
- What’s more convincing? Someone saying, ‘I care’ in a text message or someone actually showing up at your door when you’re falling apart?
- That’s the beauty of the incarnation. God didn’t just send a message. **He sent Himself.**
- Because God showed up, when you cry out in frustration or heartbreak, you’re not talking to a God who says, “*I can imagine what*

that feels like.” You’re talking to the One who says, *“I know. I’ve been there.”*

3. Jesus brought His light into our darkness.

- John doesn't just tell us Jesus became human; he actually told us **why**.

⁴ The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. (John 1:4 – NLT)

- Darkness can be disorienting. Even when you’re in a familiar place, like your own home, when there’s no light, you’re still bound to stub your toe or run into a table.
- As soon as you see even the tiniest bit of light the room you’re in starts to make a little bit more sense
- That’s nothing compared to what happens when you find the light switch.
- When Jesus became one of us, it was like He flipped on the light in a room that had been completely dark and didn’t even have windows.
- Before Jesus, humanity was trying to figure out the answers to some of life’s deepest questions.
 - *Who is God really? How can we know Him? What does He want from us?*
- There had been glimpses of God through creation, through the Law, through the prophets, but there were still so many unanswered questions.
- When Jesus showed up, people could finally see that God wasn't just some distant, impersonal deity... instead, He’s a caring Creator who loves us enough to join us and bring life to our broken world.
- When life feels overwhelming, you're not stumbling around in the dark hoping to find an exit. You're walking with the Light Himself.

ACTION (How could we live this out?)

1. Make a point to remember who Jesus really is.

- This week, the challenge is to remember the **full truth** of the Christmas story.

- When you see nativity sets, Christmas lights, or hear Christmas songs, let them remind you of this incredible truth: the Baby in that manger is the same God who spoke galaxies into existence.
- Every time I experience something Christmas-related this week—whether it’s a decoration, a song, or even a Christmas movie—whenever I see the Baby Jesus, I’m going to say to myself...
 - “That **TINY** Baby is a **BIG** God.”
 - You can join me, or you can come up with your own way to remind yourself.
- Let’s never forget the fact that the all-powerful God of the Universe chose to become one of us.

2. Share the light of Jesus with someone else.

- Jesus didn't come just to be the Light for you. He came to be the Light for **everyone**. And one of the best ways to understand how amazing that gift really is, is to share it with someone else.
- This week, I want to challenge you to look for someone in your life who might need to experience Jesus’ love through your actions.
- Remember, when Jesus became one of us, He didn't just **tell** people about God's love... He showed them God’s love by the way He lived, served, and cared for others.
- When you do the same for others, you're reflecting the same heart that caused God to step into our world in the first place.