

Becoming Human | Introduction

September 7, 2025

Psalm 8 (NIV)

LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory in the heavens.

² Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies,

to silence the foe and the avenger.

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars,

which you have set in place,

⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

- ⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.
- ⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands;

you put everything under their feet:

- ⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,
- 8 the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.
- ⁹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Notes:

We are sent by Jesus

John 20:21 "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." **Jesus**

To make disciples of all kinds of people

Matthew 28:18–20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations." Jesus

With a message of the cross

Luke 24:46–48 "You are witnesses of these [suffer/rise; repentance/forgiveness] things." Jesus

Empowered by the Spirit

Acts 1:6–8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses." **Jesus**

What is the discipleship pathway of Jesus?

"For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, *in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.*" Romans 8:29

"He [Jesus Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation." Colossians 1:15

"Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits [a synonym for "firstborn"] of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; as all die in Adam, *so all will be made alive in Christ*. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:20–23

"The first man, Adam, became a living being; the last Adam [Christ] became *a life-giving spirit* [..] The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven [...] Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven." 1 Corinthians 15:45–49

"is the image of God" 2 Corinthians 4:4

"if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation" 2 Corinthians 5:17

"The New Testament promises that Jesus' true humanity can become our own. We can, in other words, become true human beings and live truly human lives through Jesus. We become human through resurrection"—*Beth Felker Jones*, "Practicing Christian Doctrine"

- 1. What do you want?
- 2. What do you say that I am?
- 3. Where is your faith?
- 4. Do you love me?