

Week of March 4-10

SON OF ADAM

Scripture Reading: Read Luke chapter 3

The Chronicles of Narnia is one of the most beloved children's book series of all time. Recently, the series has begun to be brought to the big screen, with three of the seven volumes, already produced. Two of the main characters in the first book, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," are Peter and Edmund. Both are referred to as Sons of Adam, implying their humanity.

In our chapter reading today, Luke includes a genealogy of Jesus. Unlike Matthew's genealogy, however, Luke doesn't stop tracing Jesus' ancestry with David and Abraham. He takes us all the way back to Adam to let us know that our Savior is not only the divine Son of God, he is also a son of Adam. He is fully human and fully God.

This isn't the only place in Luke where Jesus' humanity is stressed. Back in chapter 2, Luke tells us that Jesus grew and became strong; that he was filled with wisdom and that the grace of God was upon him (verse 40). Luke adds in verse 52 that Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. Did you catch the word "grew" or did you pass over it too quickly yesterday in your reading? Jesus grew up. He wasn't born an adult. He was born a helpless baby, dependent upon his mother and father. He had to be potty-trained. He had to learn to eat. He had to learn to walk and run. He went through adolescence. Jesus was fully human.

What does this mean for us today? As mentioned in the devotional in Mark 15, it means, he knows. He knows not only what it is like to feel abandoned by the Father at the cross when he bore our sins. He also knows what it is like to live in a physical body, in time and space, just like we do. He knows what it's like to be hungry, to be sad, to be angry, to be tired, and, yet, without sin. He, indeed, as the writer of Hebrews says, "touched with the feelings of our infirmities." He is the perfect Savior because he is both the Son of God and the Son of Adam.

Action Step: As you continue to read through the book of Luke, look for more examples where Luke stresses the humanity of Jesus. You might also want to rent the movie, "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," and listen for those "sons of Adam" references.

Prayer Focus: Give thanks to God for Jesus.

Take-a-way: Jesus Christ, Son of Adam, Son of God.