**CREEKSIDE’S TEACHING NOTES** forSunday, February 19, 2017

**STUMBLING OVER JESUS**

**“Never sinned?”**

**• CHRISTIANS BELIEVE THAT JESUS NEVER SINNED**

**But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins.**

**And in him is no sin.**

1 John 3:5

**Such a high priest truly meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.**

Hebrews 7:26

**“He committed no sin,
    and no deceit was found in his mouth.”[**

1 Peter 2:22

**Can any of you prove me guilty of sin?**

Jesus in John 8:46

**• WAS JESUS ABLE TO NOT SIN OR NOT ABLE TO SIN?**

Jesus did not have a sinful nature like we have.

Jesus is 100% God and 100% human. Since God cannot sin then Jesus could not sin.

To sin is to break the laws of God. The laws of God are a reflection of the character and nature of God. God cannot break his own moral laws, it is impossible for him to be other than what he is. He is holy, righteous, pure, sinless.

**• BUT IF JESUS NEVER SINNED THEN IS HE FULLY HUMAN?**

Sinning does not make us human.

Adam and Eve were fully human before they sinned.

Jesus was tempted like we are tempted.

**For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.**

Hebrews 4:15

**Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.**

Matthew 4:1 & Luke 4

If Jesus never sinned then perhaps he experienced temptation at a level beyond ours. Perhaps we break too soon and he experienced the full weight of temptation but never broke. Maybe he actually understands temptation better than we do.

TEMPTATION: To have a sinful proposition suggested to you by someone or something outside yourself or by your own sin nature.

SIN: To participate in a sinful act or to consider actually participating in a sinful act and the possible pleasures and consequences of such an act to the degree that the act has already taken place in your mind.

**• WHAT DOES JESUS’ SINLESSNESS MEAN TO US?**

1. He understands our struggles with sin because he too was tempted just like us

**For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

Hebrews 4:15-16

**Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.**

 Hebrews 2:18

2. His sinlessness means that we can have confidence that he keeps his promises.

**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**

Hebrews 13:8

