

# Two States, Three Offices

**Opening Prayer** Heavenly Father, guide our conversation tonight, the thoughts we may have, and the words we may use. Help us to see the incredible promises that You give and that You fulfilled for us in Your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

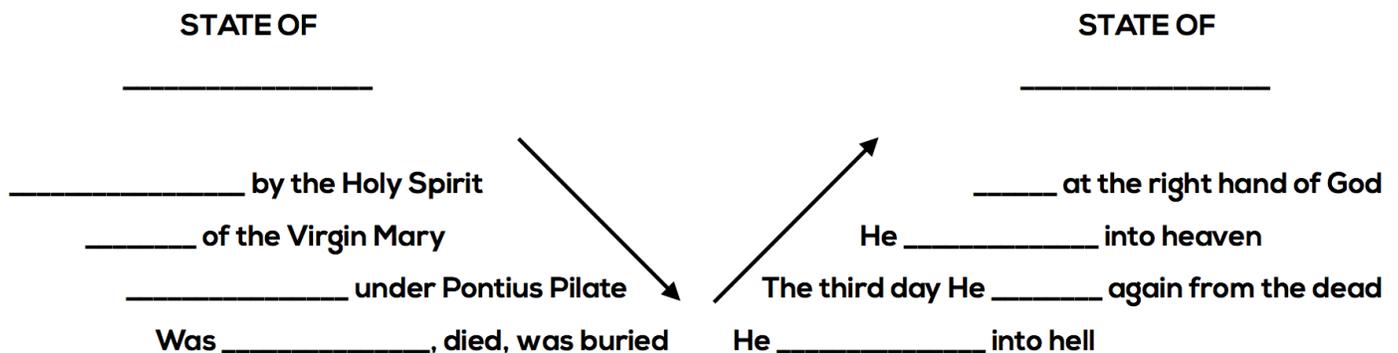
## Fill in the Blank/Questions—Responding to the Talk in the Big Room

- Jesus fulfilled (and fulfills!) three offices that we were expected of the Messiah in the eyes of God’s people. Those three offices were: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- As \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus proclaims the Word of God to us.
- As \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus offered Himself as the sacrifice for our sin and He intercedes with the Father on our behalf.
- As \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus rules over all creation, especially for the good of His church.

## This is Most Certainly True (Bible Time)

Philippians 2 really helps us to embrace how our creed outlines Jesus’ two states: humiliation and exaltation. They help us to see Jesus as both truly God and truly man.

- Read Philippians 2:5-8. Now fill out the left side of the chart below using the words of the Apostles’ Creed (the words are found on p.119 in your *Small Catechism*).
- Now read Philippians 2:9-11. Complete the chart.



## Situation Time

Talk about the following situations with your group. Take notes on what you discuss!

*Situation #1:* You’re hanging out with your friend, Hannah, at the park after a soccer game. Hannah and her family are Jewish. She knows you are a Christian and that you believe something about Jesus being the Messiah that was promised. She asks you, “Why do you think Jesus is *the* Messiah? As I read through our scripture, there are many who were anointed to do the Lord’s work. What is different about Jesus than all the other messiahs?” How might you respond to Hannah?

*Situation #2:* You and your friend, Bobby, are playing video games after church one day. Bobby doesn't really go to church, so the whole thing was a little new to him. You're talking with him about it and he starts talking about saying the creed. He notices, "That whole part about saying *hell* in church was a little strange. I mean, I didn't even think people still believed in hell. What was that all about?" You've got an opportunity to talk about Jesus' victory here (in His exaltation). How do you respond to Bobby?

*Situation #3:* It's Thanksgiving time. Cousin Bart is back in the picture. What you said about Jesus being fully God really stuck with Him. Now he can't wrap his head around the fact that Jesus (being God) would ever become man. He says, "You made such good points last time, especially when you showed me all those places in scripture where it talks about Jesus being God, too. Now I'm starting to think He was never really a man. I mean, why would God—an infinite being—want to become a finite man?" Thinking about what we talked about this week, particularly Philippians 2, how do you respond to Bart that would help him understand Jesus?

### **Share Highs and Lows**

**Closing Prayer** Lord Jesus, King of Glory, in Your mercy and compassion You gave Yourself over to death on the cross to obtain everlasting righteousness and innocence for me and all believers. With the help of Your Spirit, keep us firm in this faith that we might always live under You in Your kingdom and serve You in joy and peace as You reign over all as our resurrected Lord. In Your name, Jesus, we pray. Amen.