

## LESSON 20: ...CONCEIVED AND BORN...

### Memory work

*You may also memorize stanzas 3&4 of the song on the other side of this sheet.*

**35. Q. What do you confess when you say: *He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary?***

*A. The eternal Son of God,  
who is and remains true and eternal God,  
took upon Himself true human nature  
from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary,  
through the working of the Holy Spirit.  
Thus He is also the true seed of David,  
and like His brothers in every respect, yet without sin.*

**36. Q. What benefit do you receive from the holy conception and birth of Christ?**

*A. He is our Mediator,  
and with His innocence and perfect holiness  
covers, in the sight of God,  
my sin, in which I was conceived and born.*

### Homework

It is commonly thought that Joseph thought Mary had slept with another man. But is this likely? Turn in a Bible to Matthew 1.

1. What was found out about Mary (verse 18)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Hint: did you write out *everything* that was found out about her?)

2. What sort of a man was Joseph? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you think he would have disobeyed the Jewish laws if this was how he was? \_\_\_\_\_

(If Joseph suspected Mary of having committed adultery, Jewish law required him to divorce her publicly.)

4. Why did Joseph not want to divorce Mary publicly? \_\_\_\_\_

5. If Joseph did not suspect Mary of adultery, why might Joseph have wanted to divorce Mary? (Hint: during class you heard Michael Card's song: The song of Joseph. It's on YouTube...)

6. Read verse 20. In the ESV, there's a comma before the word "for". Now Greek has no punctuation. What does the text say if that comma before "for" is left out and the word "for" is translated with the synonym "because" (as the NIV does)?

7. Would it make sense to hold that Joseph did not suspect Mary of adultery but understood she was about to give birth to the Messiah and Joseph considered it wrong that people would think he was the father of Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

***Alternative Memory work***

*The following stanzas are rhymed versions of q&a 35 & 36:*

3. By the Holy Spirit Jesus was conceived,  
 Born of the Virgin Mary. This we believe.  
 Christ is both true God and man, thus fore'er he'll be  
 Both in true perfection through all eternity  
 True God, true man.

4. Christ, our mediator, with his innocence  
 From God hides my corruption and all my sins.  
 I'm conceived and born in sin and endless misery.  
 But my Saviour Jesus in love delivered me.  
 He set me free.

Based on this melody (a Dutch Christmas hymn) – same as last week:

Nu zijt wel - le - ko - me Je - su, lie - ve Heer,

Gij komt van al - zo ho - ge, van al - zo veer.

9 Nu zijt wel - le - ko - me van de ho - ge he - mel neer.

13 Hier al in dit aard - rijk zijt Gij ge - zien nooit meer. Ky - ri - e - leis.