

## Week 4 | God

### What is the Trinity?

It's been said about the Trinity: *"Try to understand it and you'll lose your mind. Deny it and you'll lose your soul."* That sounds about right.

But since we don't want anyone to lose our mind or soul, we're going to do our best to explain this incredible mystery known as the Trinity.

### Definition of the Trinity...

O\_\_\_\_\_ God eternally existing as three d\_\_\_\_\_,  
c\_\_\_\_\_ Persons- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The word "Trinity" is never found in the Bible, but the concept of the Trinity is \_\_\_\_\_ in many places. In Genesis 1:26 God says *"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness"*.

The only other being this could possibly be referring to are the \_\_\_\_\_, and it couldn't have been them because we are not made in the image of \_\_\_\_\_.

Verse 27 of Genesis 1 says that *"God created man in his own image; in the image of God he created him..."*. Verses 26-27 imply that there is more than one person in who God is.

When Jesus sent His disciples out to fulfill the mission He had given them, He put it this way in Matthew 28:19... *"make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"*.

The word "Trinity" is Latin and is the combination of "Tri", meaning \_\_\_\_\_, and "Unity" meaning \_\_\_\_\_, and so Trinity literally means "Tri\_\_\_\_\_ or T\_\_\_\_\_ -in-O\_\_\_\_\_". "Tri", three Persons. "Unity", only one God.

This is one of the beautiful m\_\_\_\_\_ of who our infinite God is. And since the Bible teaches it, we can choose to believe it by faith even if we can't fully grasp it all.

There have been many attempts to describe the Trinity with human examples.

H2O...

Apple...

The Bible clearly describes three p\_\_\_\_\_ of the Godhead while still affirming o\_\_\_\_\_ God. Deuteronomy 6:4 says, "*The Lord is one*". 1 Timothy 2:5 says "*There is one God*".

J.I. Packer had it right when he said about the Trinity, "*... it confronts us with perhaps the most difficult thought that the human mind has ever been asked to handle. It is not easy; but it is true.*"

Each person of the Trinity is equal in \_\_\_\_\_ and therefore worthy of our full devotion. BUT, it's also important to understand that they are not equal in \_\_\_\_\_.

There is s\_\_\_\_\_ within the Trinity. Scripture teaches that the Holy Spirit is subordinate to the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and the Son is subordinate to the \_\_\_\_\_. Equal in value different in function.



### **Whole Group Discussion**

*What do you think is the hardest part about the Trinity to understand?*

*Do you struggle with not being able to fully grasp the reality of the Trinity? Are you ok with the mysterious of God?*

*What are some other hard to understand mysterious from the Bible? How can this actually help us worship God even more?*

We've looked at the meaning of the Trinity, let's spend the rest of our time looking at a few of the distinct r\_\_\_\_\_ within the Trinity. Each person of the Trinity plays a different role in our lives as disciples.

We see different roles when we look at \_\_\_\_\_. The Father \_\_\_\_\_ the words that brought the universe into being.

It was the Son who \_\_\_\_\_ it out, which is why John 1:3 says about the Son that *"All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made"*.

The Holy Spirit was also involved, it was He that was "\_\_\_\_\_" over the face of the waters according to Genesis 1:2.

We see the different roles at work in our \_\_\_\_\_. It's God the Father who provided a \_\_\_\_\_ for our sins to be forgiven.

It was through the Son, who lived a sinless life and yet died a sinner's death in our \_\_\_\_\_ on the cross but rose from the grave to defeat sin and death.

And it's the Holy Spirit who \_\_\_\_\_ us of our sin and need of a Savior and \_\_\_\_\_ us to the Father.

We also see different roles at work within \_\_\_\_\_. We pray to the Father, in the name of His Son (who is at God's right hand interceding for us), and it's the Holy Spirit who helps us in how we pray.

## **Wayne Grudem, "Bible Doctrine"...**

*"In general, the work of the Holy Spirit seems to be to bring to completion the work that has been planned by God the Father and begun by God the Son"*

Have we cleared up all the questions about the Trinity that we have? No. But we do hope that it has been helpful and that your response would be the same as the Apostle Paul's in Romans 11:33-34:

*"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! 'For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?'"*

We may not be able to grasp everything about our m\_\_\_\_\_ and m\_\_\_\_\_ God, but we certainly know enough to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ our God.

"The Doxology": Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST.



### **Small Group Discussion**

*Read the story of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5:1-11. How do you see the doctrine of the Trinity confirmed in this story?*

*Read John 14:16-18. What can we learn about our relationship with each Person of the Trinity from this passage?*

*How will the truth of the Trinity cause you to worship God with greater exuberance this week?*



### **Prayer Focus**

Do you take time to give thanks for all three Persons of the Trinity? Take some time now giving thanks.