



GROUP ICE BREAKER

If your home were on fire, what three items (not including people or pets) would you try to save and why?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week? How did it go?

- I believe I will inherit eternal life because of what Jesus has done for me.
- I believe nothing I do or have done can earn my salvation.
- I will say a prayer to receive Jesus as my savior.
- I will follow Jesus and live the kind of life he offers.
- I will reflect on John 10:27 when I doubt my salvation.

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Scholar and theologian AW Tozer once wrote, “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” How we see God shapes how we believe, how we love, how we serve and how we worship. But God is tricky, because while we know a lot about Him, we also lie in the mystery of God.

The God of the Old Testament is understood to be the *One*, primary and powerful. Intermixed into the Old Testament are glimpses of God in *three*, God as both Spirit and Son of Man. Distinct from God but also God, the Spirit adds a personalization and a presence in places where God seems absent. The last part of the trinitarian God that we see in the Old Testament is the Son of Man.

In and through Jesus we also see a different side of God. Throughout the Gospels we see God the Father, who is not an abstract force or energy, but is a personal, present, relatable, and understanding God. And the Spirit no longer hovers in chaos. In the New Testament, the Spirit spurs an activity and continues this connection with the triune God.

God is a being we don't fully understand and yet maybe the point isn't to fully understand the intricacies and mysteries of God. Maybe the point is to be known by this God so that we can participate in life with God.

KEY STATEMENT FOR THE WEEK

- I believe the God of the Bible is the one true God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

KEY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Scripture memorization is a valuable spiritual practice in a Christ-centered life. Spend a few minutes each day committing this verse to memory.

- ☐ “May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” 2 Corinthians 13:14

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the image of God you have in your mind and what shaped that image for you?
2. In a world and culture filled with so many different god options, the Old Testament writers point out that believers saw God as the One true God. Why is it so important for us to acknowledge God as the One true God today?
3. How was the concept of the Trinity first described to you, perhaps when you were a child, or as an adult? How would you explain this idea of God existing as three persons, yet one God, to someone else?
4. The Bible supports the elements of Trinitarian doctrine without ever explicitly stating such a doctrine. Why do you think Scripture never explicitly talked about the Trinity?
5. Kylie spoke of the New Testament image of God as Abba, or Father, that He’s personal, present, relatable, and understanding. How has your relationship with your earthly father affected your view of God?
6. The Gospels continuously portray Jesus as both fully human and also fully God. As a group, see how many characteristics of Jesus’ humanity and divinity you can list from what you know of Jesus.
7. God’s Spirit is described as active and moving. How do you sense or see the Spirit active and moving in your life? In the world?
8. In the Old Testament, God is seen as relational and intimate with us, a God who sees, hears, and delivers. How have you experienced this to be true in your life? Is there an area where you are waiting for Him to deliver you? Share with the group if you’re comfortable, and have them pray with you.

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

Use these as a guide to take your next step and commit to what you learned this week:

- I believe the God of the Bible is the one true God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- I believe that while God is mysterious I can know and experience God.
- I will reflect on how I understand the trinitarian reality of God, and explore the extra resources if I have questions.
- I will explore how I experience God, Jesus and the Spirit in my life.
- I will reflect on 2 Corinthians 13:14 this week.

PRAYER

Prayer as a spiritual practice is our conversational life with God, where He hears from us and we hear from Him, with the intent of learning and leaning into His will for our lives. Let this prayer guide you over the next week.

Heavenly Father,

You are all powerful and all knowing. You are a God who sees me and hears me and desires to have an intimate relationship with me. Thank you for your love, the grace of your Son and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation that I may know you better.

I pray in the name of your Son, Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Isaiah 43:10
- Isaiah 44:6
- Genesis 1:2
- Daniel 7:13-14
- 1 Corinthians 8:6
- 1 Peter 1: 3
- Matthew 3: 16-17
- Acts 2:2-4
- Matthew 28: 16-19
- Exodus 3: 7-8
- 2 Corinthians 13:14

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

The following are suggested resources if you would like to continue your study of this topic.

- [God](#)
- [Does God Exist?](#)
- [The Doctrine of God](#)
- [The Doctrine of the Trinity](#)
- [Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith](#)
- [The Deep Things of God: How the Trinity Changes Everything](#)
- [Knowing God](#)