

Knowing God Week 1

God Time

Unity of the Godhead

These scriptures are selected to help you gain a deeper understanding of who Jesus is. You can read them each day or listen to the daily audio that is sent to you. They are intentionally designed for you to engage in your time alone with God. You will find them complementary to the teachings on the weekend (gatherings) and to the LIFE Group materials.

Some tips:

Use a Bible that is easy to read. The ESV or The NLT are both good translations.

Use a prayer journal. After you read the passages jot down what “jumped out” at you while reading. Then take a few minutes to write a prayer response to what you have read.

There are only five days of reading provided, so if you miss a day, you have time to catch up. Do not get legalistic! If you miss a day or even a week, God still loves you!

Monday: Mathew 28:19

Tuesday: 2 Corinthians 13:14

Wednesday: John 10:30

Thursday: Matthew 3:16-17

Friday: Luke 1:35

Diving Deeper

Knowing God from the Start - Unity of the Godhead

In a nutshell, there is one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit. The three persons of the Godhead are coequal and co-eternal ([Genesis 1:26](#), [Isaiah 9:6](#), [Matthew 3:16-17](#); [28:19](#); [Luke 1:35](#), [Hebrews 3:7-11](#), and [1 John 5:7](#)).

The most difficult thing about the Trinity Doctrine is that there is no way to adequately explain it. The Trinity is a concept that is impossible for any human being to fully understand, let alone explain. God is infinitely higher than we are, therefore we should not expect to be able to fully understand Him. The Bible teaches that the Father is God ([Exodus 3:14](#)), that Jesus is God ([John 8:58](#)), and that the Holy Spirit is God ([Acts 5:3-4](#)). The Bible also teaches that there is only one God ([Deuteronomy 6:4](#); [James 2:19](#)). How these two statements of doctrine can both be true is incomprehensible to the human mind. However, this doesn't mean that they're both not true.

With respect to the Trinity Doctrine, popular illustrations are not completely accurate descriptions. The egg fails in that the shell, white and yoke are parts of the egg, not the egg in themselves. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are not parts of God, each of them is God. The water illustration is somewhat better, but still fails to adequately describe the Trinity. Liquid, vapor and ice are forms of water. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are not forms of God, each of them is God. So, while these illustrations may give us a picture of the Trinity, the picture is not entirely accurate or complete. An infinite God cannot be fully described by a finite illustration.

Instead of focusing on the Trinity, try to focus on the fact of God's greatness and infinitely higher nature than our own. "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?" ([Romans 11:33-34](#))

The core of the Trinity Doctrine is the reality of a triune Godhead - God lives in fellowship and relationship with Himself. This is a difficult concept to grasp. But let's put a God-sized doctrine into perspective - God is beyond our comprehension. "'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the LORD. 'For

as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts" ([Isaiah 55:8-9](#)). It shouldn't bother us that we can't understand "tri-unity." We can't comprehend infinity, eternity or electricity either, but reality is real whether we can comprehend it or not.

All we really need to know about the Trinity Doctrine: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." ([Matthew 28:19](#))

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Questions to Consider

- 1) What is the most difficult thing about the Trinity for you to comprehend?
- 2) Do you believe one can perfectly and completely understand the trinity? Why or why not?
- 3) The Bible supports the elements of the Trinity doctrine without ever explicitly stating it as such. Why do you think Jesus never explicitly talked about the Trinity? Discuss the following:
 - a. The Holy Spirit is not the Father or the Son, The Son is not the Holy Spirit or the Father, The Father is not the Son or the Holy Spirit.
 - b. The Holy Spirit IS God, The Father IS God, The Son IS God