



KNOW YOUR

Family

SERMON SERIES

He is the
Image
of the
Invisible
God

COLOSSIANS 1:15–20

STUDY GUIDE

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WELCOME:

Fixing Our Focus

Suggested icebreaker:

Ask your GG members to take turns describing who God is. Try to keep this going until nobody is able to come up with something unique. This goes to show just how infinite God is.

WORSHIP:

Adoring Our God

Suggested songs:

- [In Christ Alone](#)
- [Living Hope](#)

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

1. GG members will understand the doctrine of the Trinity.
2. GG members will believe that Jesus Christ is God.

INTRODUCTION

Since the time of the early church, people struggled to understand the nature of God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. The Bible says that there is only one God. At the same time, we see in scriptures three people who are distinct from each other and yet are called God. How can this be? Let us learn what the scriptures teach about who God is.

The Doctrine of the Trinity (Select passages)

The doctrine of the Trinity states that there is one God existing in three persons - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Each one of these persons is distinct from the others, yet each one is God. They are of the same essence or substance and share the same attributes that are uniquely God's.

1. Read the following passages: Deuteronomy 4:35, 6:4; Isaiah 45:5-6; 1 Corinthians 8:4-6. What do these passages say about God?
2. Read the following passages: Genesis 1:26; Psalm 110:1; Isaiah 6:8; Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 4:4-6. What do these passages say about person(s) called God?
3. God possesses certain attributes that are uniquely his: omnipotence - he is all-powerful; omnipresence - he is present everywhere; omniscience - he knows everything; eternity - he exists for eternity. According to the following passages, who are the person(s) who possess these attributes? What can we conclude from this?
 - a. Omnipotence: Jeremiah 32:17; John 10:17-18; Romans 15:18-19
 - b. Omnipresence: Psalm 139:7; Jeremiah 23:24; Matthew 28:20
 - c. Omniscience: Psalm 147:5; John 16:30; 2 Corinthians 2:10-11
 - d. Eternity: Psalm 90:2; Hebrews 9:14; Revelation 1:17-18
4. God alone is able to create and give salvation to humanity. Read Genesis 1:1-2; John 1:1-3; Ephesians 1:3-14; 1 Peter 1:1-2. According to these passages, who are the persons who participate in God's work of creation and salvation?

Application

The doctrine of the Trinity is not something that is easy to grasp, but it is an important truth about God that believers need to understand. Believers need to understand who God is according to what scriptures teach. Having a wrong understanding of God results in worshipping a different god.

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

The Doctrine of the deity of Christ (Colossians 1:15-20)

Jesus Christ is more than just a great teacher or prophet of God. He is God who took on human nature without discarding his divine nature so that he can save humanity from sin and death. This doctrine is of vital importance for the believer because belief in this doctrine is what sets believers apart (1 John 4:1-3).

1. What do verses 15 and 19 say about Jesus Christ in relation to God?
Some people interpret the term “firstborn of all creation” to mean that Jesus is a created being. But the term refers to Christ being preeminent over all creation, not that he is part of creation. (cf. Colossians 2:9; John 1:1-2, 14; 10:30)
2. What do verses 16 & 17 say about Jesus Christ with regard to creation? In this passage, it is clear that all creation was made through Jesus Christ. (cf. John 1:3, 10; 1 Corinthians 8:6)
3. In verse 18, who is Jesus Christ in relation to the church and the rest of creation? (cf. John 13:3; Ephesians 1:22-23)
4. According to verse 20, what is possible through Jesus Christ alone? (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:18; Rom 5:1)

Application

Jesus is God, and as such, he deserves all our worship and praise. It is precisely because Jesus is God who became human, just like us, that he is able to give us salvation from sin and death. This is something that we can never hope to attain by ourselves. God reached down to us because he knew we could not reach up to him. Praise God for his grace and mercy!

PRAYER ITEM

Father God, I acknowledge that I cannot fully comprehend who you are. But you revealed yourself to the world that we may know you, even in our limited capacity. Not only that, but you also reached down to us and became one of us through your Son, Jesus Christ, so that you can save us out of the pit that we have dug for ourselves through sin. I worship you for who you are. All glory, honor, and praise belong to you. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen. ■



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