

The doctrine of the Trinity states that “God is One in Three” and “Three in One”. The unity of God is that there is only one God and not three gods. God has revealed Himself as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The three persons of the Godhead share the essence of God. “Three in Oneness” demonstrates how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit always operate together in unity and that there is no appearance of subordination, but rather of equality. The complete understanding of the Trinity is still a mystery; however, the Scripture does demonstrate its existence.

God is One

- Deut 6:4-5 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is one*! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.
- Isaiah 45:21-22 Tell and bring forth *your case*; Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? *Who* has told it from that time? *Have* not I, the LORD? And *there is* no other God besides Me, A just God and a Savior; *There is* none besides **Me**. “Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I *am* God, and *there is* no other.
- Mark 10:18 So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good but **One**, *that is*, God.

Three Persons who are God

- John 20:17 Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My **Father**; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and *to* My God and your God.’”
- Titus 2:13-14 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior **Jesus Christ**, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.
- Acts 5:3-4 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the **Holy Spirit** and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”

Three in Oneness

- Matthew 28:19 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,
- 1 Peter 1:2 elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:
- Matt 3:16-17 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”
- John 17:22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as **We are one**:

Discussion Item 1: *Who is God?*

Discussion Item 2: *How does the Trinity work in your own life?*

Life Application: *When you pray to God, remind yourself how all three persons of the Godhead are involved to answer your prayer.*

Helpful Definition:

God – The Bible does not contain a formal definition of the word “God”, yet God’s being and attributes are displayed on every page. The greatest definition of the word in the history of Christendom, that is, in the culture in which the bible has been a prevailing influence, is the one found in the Westminster Shorter Catechism (Q.4): “God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.” God is a nonmaterial personal being, self-conscious and self-determining. He is everywhere; everything everywhere is immediately in his presence. His omniscience is all-inclusive—he eternally knows what he has known in the past and what he will know in the future. His omnipotence is the ability to do with power all that power can do, controlling all the power that is or can be. Holiness is God’s central ethical attribute. Basic ethical principles are revealed by the will of God and derived from and based on the character of God. He possesses all logic and rationality. The axioms of logic and mathematics are not laws apart from God to which God must be subject. They are attributes of his own character. God is eternal—without temporal beginning or ending. In a figurative sense “eternal” may designate (as in the words “eternal life”) a quality of being suitable for eternity. Unchangeable, in Bible language, points to the perfect self-consistency of God’s character throughout all eternity and in all his relations with his creatures. God brings to pass, in time, the events of his redemptive program which is not contradictory. The notion that God’s immutability is static immobility (as in Thomism) is like the notion of timelessness and is contrary to the biblical view.

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Notes:

Proverb 16:9 A man’s heart plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.

Psalms 3:5 I lay down and slept; awoke, for the LORD sustained me.