

‘What Do I Believe - God’

2 Corinthians 13:14

SERMON NOTES:

“Who is God?”

- **We believe the God of the Bible is the only true God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

“May the Grace shown by the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. May the love that God has given us be with you. And may the sharing of life brought about by the Holy Spirit be with you all.”
2 Corinthians 13:14

- The **One** true God is a **Triune** God

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

Deuteronomy 6:4

“And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:16-17

Wrong Beliefs:

- **Modelism** God wears three different masks

“Whoever has seen me has seen the Father” John 14:9

- **Subordinationism** This idea surfaced to explain how God could keep himself from suffering and death.

“...Jesus, who being in very nature God... humbled himself becoming obedient to death.” Philipians 2:6-8

- **Tritheism** The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three distinct gods.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

Deuteronomy 6:4

Perichoresis:

Peri means around

Choresis means dancing (a choreography of dance)

Each person of the Trinity deferring to the others in the Trinity - in a perfect, humble relational community

Notes for Reflection

for Week Beginning Sunday 11 Feb. 2018

MAIN IDEA: ‘I believe the God of the Bible is the one true God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.’

- 1) What behaviours help you to recognise someone who believes the God of the Bible is the one true God?
- 2) What, if anything, hinders you from putting your faith solely in the God of the Bible?

Watch the video clip for this week.

- 3) As a group, discuss your thoughts and feelings about the following declarations. Which statements are easy to declare with certainty? Which are more challenging, and why?

- *I believe the God of the Bible is the one true God*
- *I believe the God of the Bible is one in essence but distinct in person - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*
- *I believe Jesus is God in flesh - who died and rose bodily from the dead.*
- *I believe the Holy Spirit is God and dwells in Christians to empower them to live the Christian life.*

- 4) If you only had two minutes to answer the question, “Who is God?” how would you respond?
- 5) How does your understanding of God impact your day to day decisions?
- 6) What are the most common reasons people struggle to believe that the God of the Bible is the one true God? What helped you get past these obstacles? Or what obstacles are you still facing?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Read Luke 3

- 7) In what ways is the Trinity a hard concept to comprehend?
- 8) If God (the Trinity) is a community within himself, and we are made in His image, what does that tell us about ourselves?
- 9) How does today’s culture help or hinder us from experiencing the community we were created for?
- 10) What specific actions can this group undertake to create healthy community?

Our Father in Heaven,

We acknowledge that it is difficult to understand who you are - three distinct persons who are one in essence. Help us not only to know about you but to learn to know you personally. Help us as a group, as we journey together through the ‘Believe’ series, to become a support community for each other.

- Amen

PRAYER TOPICS:

- for new clients for our CAP budgeting service.
- That the prayer life of G.B Church would become vibrant and affective.
- The church leaders, for wisdom and sensitivity to the leading of the Holy Spirit as they carry out their duties
- For the establishment new Growth Groups, and an increase in church people signing up and attending the new series.
- For the power and presence of God to be evident in our morning services.