
Foundations

Session 2: "A Divine Relationship"

OUR TOPICS TODAY:

- The Holy Trinity
- God the Father
- God the Son
- God the Holy Spirit

Review from Session 1

What kind of world did God create?

What happened?

What did God do about it?

What must we do to be saved?

What is our calling as Christians in the world?

The Holy Trinity

- There is _____ God who exists _____ persons.

Matthew 28:19 *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”*

Deuteronomy 6:4 *“Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”*

2 Corinthians 13:14 *“The grace of the Lord Jesus, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit”*

- The Father is _____ the Son is _____, the Holy Spirit is _____.
- But there are not _____ gods, but only _____ God.

What this means:

- God is _____
- God is _____

1 John 4:8 *“Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”*

- God is _____
- God is _____
- God has _____

God The Father

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.



- The Creator of _____ from _____

Genesis 1-2

- The Creator of _____. *(See the Small Catechism)*

Psalm 139:14-15 *"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place."*

- You are not an _____, the result of countless mutations and mistakes, but rather the unique creation of a loving creator.
- You are made in the _____ of God.

Genesis 1:27, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."

- God's design in creation is _____.

Genesis 1:31, "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."

- But because of sin, we live in a _____ Creation

Genesis 3:16-19, "To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

- The Ongoing Creation: God is also _____ and _____.

Acts 17:25 “God himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.”

1 Peter 5:7 “Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

- Why is this teaching about Creation important?
 - + We have a _____
 - + There is _____ to the universe and our lives
 - + We are _____ of creation
 - + We are _____ to the creator
 - + We are to _____ the life He has created
- All that you have belongs to him and he entrusts to you. How then should you live?

***I have meaning, worth, and dignity,
because I am a creation of the Creator.***



God The Son

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead



Who is God the Son?

- 1) God the Son is _____ God, co-equal with the Father. He is not God, Jr.

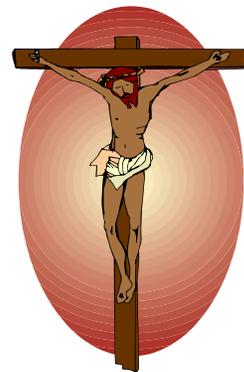
John 1:1 *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*

- 2) God the Son was born as a _____ who was named Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah/Christ. (*Messiah is from the Hebrew, Christ is from the Greek, both mean "anointed one".*)

John 1:14 *"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us."*

So, is Jesus God or Human?

- 1) He is _____
 - Jesus is fully God and fully human
- 2) How do we confess that?
 - Jesus is one _____, but with two _____.
 - Jesus is "True God and True Man"



Colossians 2:9 *“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form...”*

3) A word we use for this: _____

John 1:14 *“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

4) Was Jesus a sinner, like the rest of us humans?

- He was _____ like us.
- But did not _____.

Hebrews 4:15 *“For we do not have [a Savior] who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin.”*

Hebrews 2:18 *“Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.”*

Who was Jesus the person?

1. He had no supernatural glow about Him.
2. He was probably nothing like what most stained glass windows depict Him to be.
 - He was a carpenter.
 - He had such charisma that people stayed at one point for three days, without food, just to hear Him speak.
 - He was passionate, feeling great joy, compassion, anger, and grief.
 - Little children loved to jump into His lap.
 - People *liked* being with Him.



3. He had great patience with broken people and little patience with proud people.
4. He loved the Father, but angrily exposed hypocritical, self-serving religion.
5. He saw great power in love, but great danger in power.
6. The broken, the outcast, the sinners and the sick crowded around just to be near Him. The religious establishment plotted His murder.
7. Angels and the Father Himself announced Jesus to be the Son of God, yet He ate and drank like other men, had to obey His mamma, got tired and slept, felt frustration and uncertainty, and even enjoyed a good party!
8. His heart's desire and life's mission was to find and retrieve the lost, and yet Jesus never once forces, manipulates, twists arms, or flatters. Rather, He invited, loved, stated truth, stated consequences of a choice, gave His life on the cross, but left the choice to people.

What about miracles?

- Jesus performed miracles
 - as an expression of his _____
 - to show that he was the _____
 - and to provide a preview of the _____.
- Ultimately, the most important miracle Jesus ever performed was the _____ and _____ (*Matthew 12:39-40*)

What Does Jesus Save Us From?

- _____

John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

- _____

John 3:17-18 *“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.”*

- Eternal _____

John 8:24 *“I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am the one I claim to be, you will indeed die in your sins.” (See also Matthew 13:47-50, 25:31-46)*

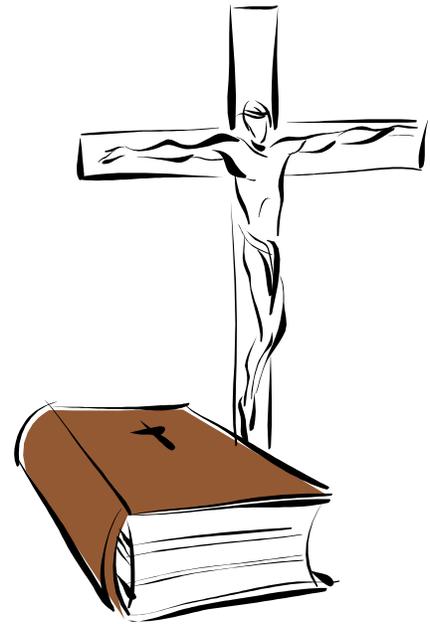
- Or in other words: _____

- Separated from _____

- Luke 16:19-31 (p. 1626)

- Jesus in Hell:

- **Matthew 27:46** *“My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?”*



What Are We Saved For?

+ For this Life

- To be His _____

Acts 1:8 *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

- To become more and more like _____

Romans 8:29 *“For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.”*

- To _____ others in His name.

Matthew 25:40 *“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’”*

- To give _____ to Him in the world.

Matthew 5:14-16 *“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”*

- To _____ of all the nations

Matthew 28:19-20 *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

+ For Eternity

- We shall be _____

1 Corinthians 15, 20-22 *“But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”*

- We shall _____ God and be _____ God.

1 John 3:2 *“Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.”*

- Beyond the worst of our _____.

Romans 8:18 *“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”*

- Perfect _____

Revelation 7:16-17 *“Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”*

Jesus Ascended to the Father & Is Returning

- Jesus ascended to the _____ of the Father
- All power and _____ for the _____



Matthew 28:18-19 *“Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations . . .”*

Ephesians 1:19-23 *“That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.*

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.”

- Jesus will return _____ and with great _____ on the last day.

Matthew 24:27-30 *“For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. . . . They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory.”*

- Jesus will return to _____ the world.

Matthew 25:31-33 *“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.”*

- Christians face the judgment with all of their sins

Romans 8:1 *“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”*



- What about those who haven't believed, haven't heard? What will happen to them? They will be _____ according to their _____.

- Jesus will return on a specific day known to _____ alone.

Mark 13:32 *“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.”*

- The return of Jesus is a source of _____ and _____ for Christians.

Luke 21:28 *“When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”*

Who do you say that I am?

Ultimately, the most important question any of us can answer about Jesus is this: “Who do you say that I am?”

There are three choices:

1) Jesus is a _____.

- In other words, He wasn’t who He said He was and knew it.

2) Jesus is a _____.

- In other words, He wasn’t who He said He was but didn’t know it.

3) Jesus is the _____.

- In other words, He is who He said He is.

+ If Jesus is who He says He is, this has profound implications. It means everything – all history, all lives, all things – really do revolve around Him and are subject to Him.

+ So, who do you say that He is?

***I have meaning, worth, and dignity
because the Son of God suffered,
died, and rose again for me.***

God The Holy Spirit

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



Who is God the Holy Spirit?

- + The Holy Spirit is _____ with the Father and the Son. He is no lesser God.

Matthew 28:19 *"...baptizing in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."*

- + The Holy Spirit _____ faith in Jesus in us.

1 Corinthians 12:3 *"No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit."*

Acts 16:14 *"The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message."*

- + The Holy Spirit enables us to _____ spiritual things.

1 Corinthians 2:12 *"We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us."*

- + The Holy Spirit works through _____ .

Ephesians 6:17 *"Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."*

Hebrews 3:7 *“So, as the Holy Spirit says: “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert.”*

The Two Works of the Spirit in Us

1. The Holy Spirit brings us to _____ through forgiveness and salvation.
(rebirth, born again, re-create)

John 3:6 *“The Spirit gives birth to the spirit.”*

+ This all is the work of saving us: _____.

2. The Holy Spirit _____ us more and more into the likeness of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 3:18 *“And we...are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”*

+ This is the work of transforming us: _____.

- And so we pray: “ _____ .”

Luke 11:13 *“...how much more will your Father in Heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”*

The Fruit & Gifts of the Spirit

+ When the Holy Spirit is in us, what comes out of us? _____

Galatians 5:23 *“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.”*

- + The Holy Spirit gives us spiritual _____ to use to benefit others in Jesus' name.

1 Corinthians 12:7,11 *“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good... All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and He gives them to each one, just as He determines.”*

Empowered for the Mission

- + The Holy Spirit _____ and _____ us for living God's mission

Luke 24:46-49 *“This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”*

Acts 1:8 *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

***I have meaning, worth, and
dignity because the Spirit of God
lives within me.***

FOR FURTHER GROWING

From “Luther’s Small Catechism”

- The Father, pp. 102-119
- The Son, pp. 119-147
- The Holy Spirit, pp. 147-157
- The Church, pp. 157-165
- The Resurrection of the Body, pp. 169-173

SHARPENING MY SWORD

Each week you will be given a verse of the Bible to put to memory. The Bible calls God’s Word “the sword of the Spirit” (Ephesians 6:17). We want you to have a big, sharp sword!

Last week:

John 1:12, “Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.”

This week:

Colossians 1:15, “Jesus is the image of the invisible God...”