

## **Attributes of God The Personhood of God – The Trinity**

For many of us, the concept of the Trinity feels rather nebulous and abstract. Even worse, it can be viewed as irrelevant. While we may *believe* this doctrine, because we're supposed to, we don't *cherish* the Trinity or even see the practical value of its presence in the Bible. The Trinity says much about God and therefore much about our life with God.

The Trinity is what enables you to not just know about God but to know Him personally. If you want to have a relationship with God, you need to know Him in truth – John 17:3.

Saving people is what God does. Creating the world is what God does.  
Answering prayer is what God does. Trinity is who God is.

*If you understand the Trinity in its simplicity,  
you understand the most important thing that makes Christianity unique.*

There are three major world religions that are monotheistic: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. What separates Christianity from Islam and Judaism is the Trinity. There are some who suggest that these three religions worship the same God but under different names. That's not Biblically accurate because God exists as Trinity.

Ephesians 1:1-14 is a great section of Scripture in which Paul extols the great work of the Trinity.

God the Father creates the plan, chooses the people, and sends the Son.  
God the Son acts in perfect submission to the Father and works out the plan of salvation.  
God the Holy Spirit applies the truth of the gospel to our lives and seals us in salvation.  
All of this brings praise to God.

When Paul ministered among the Corinthians, he resolved to “know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified,” 1 Cor 2:2. It's fascinating that for all his focus on Jesus in Corinth, when he writes out salvation for those in Ephesus, he speaks of the roles of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*The gospel is the Trinity, and the Trinity is the gospel.*  
**The Father has chosen. The Son has redeemed. The Holy Spirit has sealed.**

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct persons. This is not one God that pretends to be one person or another at various times. The Trinity is three persons who comprise the one God. They have different roles and responsibilities. Paul makes this clear in Ephesians 1.

### **Recommended Reading:**

*Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know*, Grudem  
*A Knowledge of the Holy*, Tozer  
*Our Triune God*, Ryken

### **Home Group Discussion Questions:**

1. Read Ephesians 1:1-14 in your group.

What does this passage say about God? What does this passage say about people?

2. When was the last time you encountered the Trinity in Scripture?

If it has been a long while, could it be that the Trinity has been present in Scripture and you just didn't happen to notice? For example, the Great Commission is a well-known piece of Scripture. Read Matthew 28:18-20 and discuss the presence of the Trinity in that passage. Same for 2 Cor 13:14.

3. Do you lean toward one person of the Trinity more than another? If so, who? Why?

4. Did you learn anything new about the Trinity from this message? If so, what?

5. What difference will your renewed understanding of and appreciation for the Trinity make in your life?