



Small Group Study Guide for May 30, 2021

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit work together as one God to accomplish our salvation, as evident on Pentecost and in our baptism. Trinity Sunday is the day we praise God for who He is, and for how He has revealed Himself, as three persons and one God. We can't understand it, yet we can know Him personally and be blessed by Him.

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. The Holy Trinity is a mystery of the Christian faith. The doctrine of God is mind-boggling to be sure. What are some questions you have always had about God and His being?
2. There are other areas of life that are as equally baffling. What other areas of life or this creation do you find an absolute mystery?

In the Word: Read John 3:1-17

3. Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin and a Pharisee, had heard the reports about Jesus, as had pretty much everyone in Judea and Galilee. What was the conclusion that Nicodemus had drawn about Jesus, based on the reports he heard as he states in verse 2?
4. How does someone enter the Kingdom of God, according to Jesus in verse 3 and 5?
5. How are people saved according to Jesus in verse 15 and 16?
6. What is God's feeling about the world in verse 16?
7. What does Jesus say about Himself and His origins in verse 13 and 16? Who is Jesus?

Putting it all Together (what we should believe or do as disciples)

8. Make a note of all three persons of the Trinity in this passage, and identify all three in verses 1-17.
9. After identifying all three persons of the Trinity, make a note on what each person does, according to Jesus' words in these verses.

Father –

Son –

Holy Spirit –

10. When we try to explain things that are not explained in the Scriptures, we sometimes fall into the trap of saying things that contradict the Scripture. This has happened many times with the Doctrine of the Trinity, especially in the first three centuries of Christianity. For example some said – “ There are three separate Gods, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.” “There is one God who takes different forms depending on what He wants to do” and so forth. The Creeds helped us to nail down the basics. Based on the Creeds, how would you explain the Trinity to someone for the first time?
11. One of the best parts of the Doctrine of the Trinity is that God exists in community, by Himself. He is three persons, together, in love and faithfulness, for all eternity. He is not a singular entity, alone by Himself. In this way, God makes us “in His image,” created for community, like Him. We are created to exist in community with each other and with God, in love and faithfulness. How cool is that!? How does the notion of God as Triune relate to our desire for community and fellowship?
12. The coordination and cooperation of our Triune God does not always manifest itself in church life. There are times when there is dissention and disunity in the body of Christ. Why is it important to strive for unity and harmony among fellow Christians as we work together to worship and serve our Triune God?

Prayer: Thank God for revealing His nature to us through the words of the Scriptures, as a Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Ask God to draw us closer to Him, and to embrace Him for who He is. Thank God for doing everything to accomplish our salvation. Ask God to give us a right understanding of that salvation, and the ability to worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth.

Next Week: “We have this treasures in jars of clay...” We are the vessels, God is the potter who creates us for His glory and purpose. We are broken and humbled, but God cherishes us and fills us with His love!