

Summary statement:

God is one in essence and three in person. We call this truth the doctrine of the Trinity. This doctrine grounds God's nature as loving and as personal. It also grounds our innate belief that unity should be possible amidst diversity. That is in the image and nature of God in us working its way out.

Discussion Questions:

1-How were you taught the doctrine of the Trinity?

-Three leaf clover illustration?

-H2O illustration?

2-Do you regard this doctrine is a central doctrine to the Christian faith? Why or why not?

*Leader: Yes, it is a central doctrine because without it the Bible is proven false (since it teaches the doctrine), and without it salvation could not have been accomplished as the New Testament teaches it. There is no exposition our justification that does not rely at least on the foundation of the Son's relationship to the Father; then in further New Testament teaching we learn that our embrace of Salvation would not be possible without the Spirit, so the Trinity is a doctrine on which our doctrine of salvation depends.

3-How is the doctrine of the Trinity compatible with monotheism?

*Leader: Each Person in the Trinity is animated by one and the same essence. 1 essence expressed in 3 Persons.

4-What aspect of this doctrine is most difficult for you?