LIFE GROUP *notes*

12 September

TOPIC: Doctrine of the Trinity

Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

Let's hear your story

1. How would you explain to a friend, family member or work colleague that the Trinity is One God, in three Persons?

2. What does Isaiah 43:10; 45:5 and 1 Timothy 2:5 tell us about God? (**That there is only One God.) NKJV**.

3. What does John 6:27b; 1 Corinthians 8:6 and Colossians 1:15 tell us about the Father? (**The Father is God.).**

4. What does John 1:1 – 4, 14; John 8:58 and John 20:28 tell us about Jesus, the Son of God? (**That Jesus Christ, the Son is God.**).

Let's go deeper

5. What does 2 Corinthians 3:17 – 18 and Acts 5:3 – 4 tell us about the Holy Spirit? (**The Holy Spirit is God.**).

6. Does the Trinity appear in the Old Testament? (**Yes, see Genesis 1:1 – 2; 1:26; 3:22; 11:6 – 7; Deuteronomy 6:4 – 5; Isaiah 48:16 and 61:1**).

7. Does the Trinity appear in the New Testament? (**Yes, see Luke 1:35; Matthew 3:16 – 17 and Matthew 28:19**).

8. What does 1 Peter 1:2 tell us about the Trinity? (**The Trinity always works together.**).

Let's apply this

9. God is love: See 1 John 4:8; John 3:35 and John 14:31.

God is relational with perfect relationships, look to God for healthy relationship
God is loving with perfect love, so we look to God for holy love.
God is like a community, so we look to God for healthy community.
God is like a family, so we look to God for healthy family.

- How are your relationships? (Healthy or unhealthy)
- Are you part of a spiritual community and family?

SUMMARY:

- **Doctrine of the Trinity**

Genesis 1:1 - In the beginning, God created…
Atheism is wrong - There is a God; Polytheism is wrong - There is only one God (not gods) and Agnosticism is wrong - This one Creator God speaks and can be known.

What is the Trinity?
The Trinity is one God who eternally exists as three distinct **persons** - Father, Son, and Spirit - who are each fully and **equally God**.

Terms: Persons - The Trinity does not have a human body, but each are living beings that think, feel, act, speak, love and relate. Equally God - They share all divine attributes (all-knowing; all-powerful and omnipresent).

There is only One God:
Read: Deuteronomy 4:35; Deuteronomy 32:39; Psalm 86:10; Isaiah 43:10; Isaiah 45:5; 1 Timothy 1:17 and 1 Timothy 2:5.

There are many demonic false gods;
Read: John 17:3; 1 Corinthians 10:20 and 2 Thessalonians 2:9 – 10.

Three heresies (false teachings) about the Trinity:
1. There is more than one God.
2. There are three divine manifestations, not Persons. (An actor playing three roles).
3. There is one God but not in three Persons. (See Arianism; Jehovah's witnesses).

The Father is God: Read: John 6:27; 1 Corinthians 8:6; John 14:9; Colossians 1:15.

The Son is God:
Read: John 1:1 – 4, 14; John 8:58; John 20:28; Rom. 9:5; Titus 2:13 and 1 John 5:20.

The Spirit is God: Read: 2 Corinthians 3:17 – 18 and Acts 5:3 – 4.

Does the Trinity appear in the Old Testament?
Read: Genesis 1:1 – 2; 26; 3:22; 11:6 – 7; Deut.6:4 – 5; Isaiah 48:16 and Isaiah 61:1.

Does the Trinity appear in the New Testament? Luke 1:35; Matt.3:16 – 17; 28:19.

How does the Trinity work together? Read: 1 Peter 1:2.
God is Love: Read: 1 John 4:8; John 3:35 and John 14:31.
1. God is relational with perfect relationships, look to God for healthy relationship
2. God is loving with perfect love, so we look to God for holy love.
3. God is like a community, so we look to God for healthy community.
4. God is like a family, so we look to God for healthy family.

Knowing Jesus and making Him known