



# Doctrine Discussion Guide

## Week 4 | Who God Is

How do you respond to this statement "I just can't understand how the Trinity works, so it must not be true"?

### Read the CF Statement of Belief

**We believe in only one living and true God, eternally existing in three distinct and equal persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

### Theological Truths

**The Father is God ; Jesus is God; The Holy Spirit is God**

### Questions for discussion

- When you think of God or picture God, what comes to your mind?
- When was the last time you were overwhelmed with WHO GOD IS?
- What question do you have about God that will produce an unsatisfactory answer because of your finite-ness?
- What would be missing if any one of the persons of the Trinity was removed from the picture?

### Passages for Study

#### SET 1: Who is the I AM?

##### **Exodus 3:13-14**

*13 Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" 14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"*

##### **John 8:58-59**

*58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." v So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.*

- What do we learn about Jesus by comparing these passages?
- Why is it significant that the people wanted to stone Jesus? (Lev 24:16)

## **SET 2: Who is the First and Last?**

### **Isaiah 44:6**

*Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.*

### **Revelation 1:17-18** (Jesus speaking)

*17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.*

### **Revelation 22:13** (Jesus speaking)

*I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."*  
What do we learn about Jesus by comparing these passages?

- What do we learn about Jesus by comparing these passages?
- What is the significance of what you see here?

## **SET 3: The Holy Spirit**

### **Romans 8:11**

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.*

### **Acts 5:1-4**

*But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, 2 and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God."*

### **John 14:26**

*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*

- What do we learn about the nature of the Holy Spirit from these passages?

*(For further study of the Spirit's deity see John 3:5; 15:26–27; 16:7–15, 1 Cor 6:19, 2 Peter 1:21)*

## **Read the Big Idea:**

We want you to grasp that God exists as one being, three persons – Father, Son, Spirit – each of whom are equal and worthy of our worship, and we want you to be able to respond to the false views of cults that deny the Trinity.

- Write down an incorrect statement you have heard someone make recently about God. What scripture refutes that statement?
- Based on the differences between God and man, should you try to limit God to performing in ways that you feel appropriate? Why or why not?
- What sin have I chosen to ignore that is keeping me from knowing God to the fullest?