



For Further Study January 15-21

1. The doctrine of the Trinity can often be a source of questioning and confusion in understanding the nature of God. What kinds of questions have you encountered concerning the Trinity?
2. The Heidelberg Catechism poses the question of the Trinity in this way. How would you expand upon this answer?
Q&A 25. Since there is but one God, why do you speak of three: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
Because that is how God has revealed himself in his Word; these three distinct persons are one, true, eternal God.
3. How would you use the following passages (or others) to teach someone about a Biblical understanding of the doctrine of the Trinity?
 - a. Genesis 1:1-2
 - b. John 1:1-18
 - c. 2 Corinthians 13:14
 - d. Titus 3:4-7

4. Read the Apostle's Creed. What do you notice is taught about each person of the Trinity? What is the Creed's focus? What is lacking?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places

5. How does John 14:15-31 develop a greater understanding of the person of the Holy Spirit?

6. How might your understanding of the Trinity make a difference in your daily life? How you view God? How you view the world?

a. God the Father – Creator

b. Jesus the Son – Redeemer

c. The Holy Spirit – Comforter