

THINKING ABOUT THE HOLY TRINITY, LIFE, AND OUR CALLING



Definition: The one true God eternally exists as three persons, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one in nature, equal in glory, and distinct in relations.

1. Before and outside of all creation, how does the God of Christian faith differ from deities in all other religions?
2. The concept of “person” is a black hole in academic studies today. How does the tripersonal God of the Bible inform *what* and *who* we are as persons created in his image (Gen. 1:26)? First, what I am as an individual person?
3. Also, how does the Trinity help orient my relationship to other people?
4. Each member of the Trinity indwells the other, without confusion of persons (John 14:9-11). Jesus promises that he will be with us and the Holy Spirit will indwell us (14:17-20; 17:21,23). We are structured to be indwelled. What might be its implications?
5. Later Application: The triune God is the self-giving God, not only within the Trinity (each loving, giving, and indwelling the other), but God’s self-giving is the basis for all creation and salvation. The *missio dei* (mission of God) is the sending of the Son and the Spirit into the world. How are we called to be part of God’s mission? (John 17:18; 20:21).