

Date: January 6, 2012 (first week's lesson)

Topic: The Triune God

Aim: To give a partial understanding of the unity and plurality of the triune God.

Know: The Trinity is One God in purpose, yet three Persons with distinct functions.

Feel: Appreciate the complexity of the biblical truth of Three in One

Action: Place your trust in the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit each day

Introduction

The doctrine of the Trinity, that God is One and composed of three "Persons," is crucial because it is **dealing with who God is, what He is like, how He works, and how He relates to the world.** Most important, the deity of Christ is essential to the plan of salvation.

The same word, *echad*, for "one," is used of God in the "Shema" of Deuteronomy 6:4. This word *echad*, for oneness, does not imply a mathematical sum but a complex unity instead. Something is being affirmed here about a unity of distinct parts. Husbands and wives are to be "one" (*echad*) according to Genesis 2:24, just as in Deuteronomy God is "one." (*Adult Teacher Sabbath School Bible Study Guide pp. 5-6*).

Statement: **The Bible teaches there is One God even as husbands and wives one.**

Read: Deuteronomy 6:4; Genesis 2:24; Exodus 3:13-15

Mediate: Vertical relationship

Question: What is the central theme in these verses?

Share in twos: Horizontal relationship

Application: How does the Oneness of God relevant to your worship?

Statement: The Bible teaches that Jesus is God

Read: Mathew 26: 63-65; Philippians 2:6; John 9: 35-39

Mediate: Vertical relationship

Question: What do these verses say about Jesus?

Share in twos: Horizontal relationship

Application: How relevant is the deity of Jesus to our salvation?

Statement: The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is God.

Read: Acts: 5: 1-11

Meditate: Vertical relationship

Question: What does this incident tell you about deity of the Holy Spirit?

Share in twos: Horizontal relationship

Application: How relevant is the Holy Spirit to our salvation?

Statement: The plurality of God is expressed unity of three Persons

Read: Acts 2: 33; 1 Peters 1: 1-3; Genesis 1: 26-27

Meditate: Vertical relationship

Question: How are purpose and functions of the God head similar and different?

Application: How important is the plurality of God to our salvation?

Summary points:

1. The Bible teaches there is One God even as husbands and wives one.
2. The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is God.
3. The plurality of God is expressed unity of three Persons
4. The Bible teaches that Jesus is God

Application question:

1. How can you use a triangle to explain the oneness and plurality of God?
2. What are the implications for our salvation if Jesus is **not** God?
3. How would you seek to correct false beliefs about the deity of Jesus?