

## **Lesson 4 – Self-Study Guide: Trinity – Father, and what else – pt 2**

### **1. Scripture Exploration**

Begin by reading and reflecting on the passages referenced in the lesson:

- Isaiah 54:5-8
- Hosea 2:19-23
- Matthew 9:14-17; 25:1-13; 6:9
- Ephesians 5:22-33
- Revelation 21:2
- Exodus 3:1-15; 4:14-17
- 1 John 4:17
- 2 Timothy 2:10-13

### **Questions for Reflection:**

- What imagery of God as husband/groom appears in these passages?
- How do these texts describe the relationship between God and His people?
- What shifts do you notice from Old Testament to New Testament in how God is portrayed?

### **2. Key Concepts to Study**

#### **A. God as Husband/Groom**

- Explore the metaphor of God as the husband of His people and Jesus as the groom awaiting His bride (the Church).
- Reflect on how this metaphor applies to both men and women, and what it means for the Church as a whole.

#### **B. Trinity and Identity**

- Consider the lesson’s explanation of the Trinity: God is three in ONE, not three ones.
- Reflect on how calling God “Father” shapes your identity and relationship with God.

#### **C. The Name of God**

- Study the meaning of “Ehyeh ahser Ehyeh” (“I am who I am”) and its implications for understanding God’s nature as self-existent and ongoing.

#### **D. Fusion of God and Man**

- Examine the lesson’s discussion of God working through people (e.g., Moses) and the significance of God’s union with humanity in Jesus.

## **E. Application to Relationships**

- Analyze Ephesians 5:22-33 in light of the lesson's teaching on unity, submission, and love within marriage as a reflection of Christ's relationship with the Church.

## **3. Personal Reflection and Journaling**

- How does viewing God as both Father and Husband challenge or enrich your understanding of your relationship with God?
- In what ways can you embody the love and unity described in the lesson in your own relationships?
- What does it mean to live in union with God, as described in the fusion of God and man?

## **4. Discussion and Further Study**

- Share your insights with a study group or mentor.
- Prepare questions about areas that are confusing or particularly meaningful.
- Consider reading additional resources on the Trinity, biblical metaphors for God, and the theology of union with Christ.

## **5. Next Steps**

- Preview the next lesson's focus: the union of the Son and the aspects of "who did the talking."
- Note any questions or themes you want to explore further in the upcoming study.