

Trinity Sunday

JOHN 16: 8-15

JOHN 17: 20-21



Last Week...

It was Pentecost Sunday.

So, how about a recap?

Pentecost was—and is—an important event in the life of the church and in the lives of believers.

Pentecost by many is called the “Birthday of the Church” because the Holy Spirit came on the apostles and all of those gathered from many different places.

Pentecost was the day the promise of the Holy Spirit’s arrival was fulfilled. Guess what? Once again, we are promised we are never alone.

We experience Pentecost every day when the Spirit lives in us as Christians.

Remember...

Jesus promised that
the Spirit would
come.

The Holy Spirit is
available to all of us.

When the Spirit
comes—amazing
things happen, and
people are changed.



This week, we will talk about an important theological concept—the Trinity.

It can be tricky, but remember the Trinity is a mystery.



Bottom Line:

ALL THREE PERSONS OF
THE TRINITY EXIST
TOGETHER FROM
ETERNITY TO ETERNITY.
ALL THREE SHARE WITH
US, AND ALL THREE ARE
WITH US.

WE EXPERIENCE THE
TRINITY IN OUR LIVES
AND OUR WORSHIP.

The Trinity

WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?

This is a doctrine—a theological concept—that is difficult to explain but must be understood as something that just “is.” People in the church have developed this teaching as a way to help us understand a little more about the nature of God—but God is beyond our full comprehension.

A close-up photograph of a board game board. The board is green with a pattern of dark grey and white circles. Several wooden pieces are scattered across the board: a green piece on the left, a yellow piece in the center, a black piece on the right, and a light-colored piece in the foreground. A red die is also visible on the right side. The background is slightly blurred, showing more pieces and a yellow and red card.

Activity

LET'S PLAY A GAME THAT SHOWS US HOW THE MOVEMENT OF THE SPIRIT CAN LEAD TO WISDOM.

What does the Bible say?

John 16: 8 -11 (CEV)

8 The Spirit will come and show the people of this world the truth about sin and God's justice and the judgment.

9 The Spirit will show them that they are wrong about sin, because they didn't have faith in me.

10 They are wrong about God's justice, because I am going to the Father, and you won't see me again.

11 And they are wrong about the judgment, because God has already judged the ruler of this world.



What does the Bible say?

John 16: 12 – 15 (CEV)

12 I have much more to say to you, but right now it would be more than you could understand.

13 The Spirit shows what is true and will come and guide you into the full truth. The Spirit doesn't speak on his own. He will tell you only what he has heard from me, and he will let you know what is going to happen.

14 The Spirit will bring glory to me by taking my message and telling it to you.

15 Everything the Father has is mine. This is why I have said that the Spirit takes my message and tells it to you.



After Jesus said this, we find him praying for the people who follow him (his disciples) and the people who will follow him because of his followers' work – work that is inspired by Jesus and empowered through the Holy Spirit.

(See next slide.)

What does the Bible say? John 17: 20-21 (CEV)

20 I am not praying just for these followers. I am also praying for everyone else who will have faith because of what my followers will say about me.

21 I want all of them to be one with each other, just as I am one with you and you are one with me. I also want them to be one with us. Then the people of this world will believe that you sent me.



Discussion...

Today is a celebration of God as Trinity—"Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Does our passage mention the three persons of God?

The text says the Spirit "know what is true." Other words for the Spirit are "counselor," "advocate," or "helper." What do these terms mean? What do the terms suggest to you about how the Spirit interacts with us?

Can you think about a time when someone was a counselor, an advocate, or a helper to you?

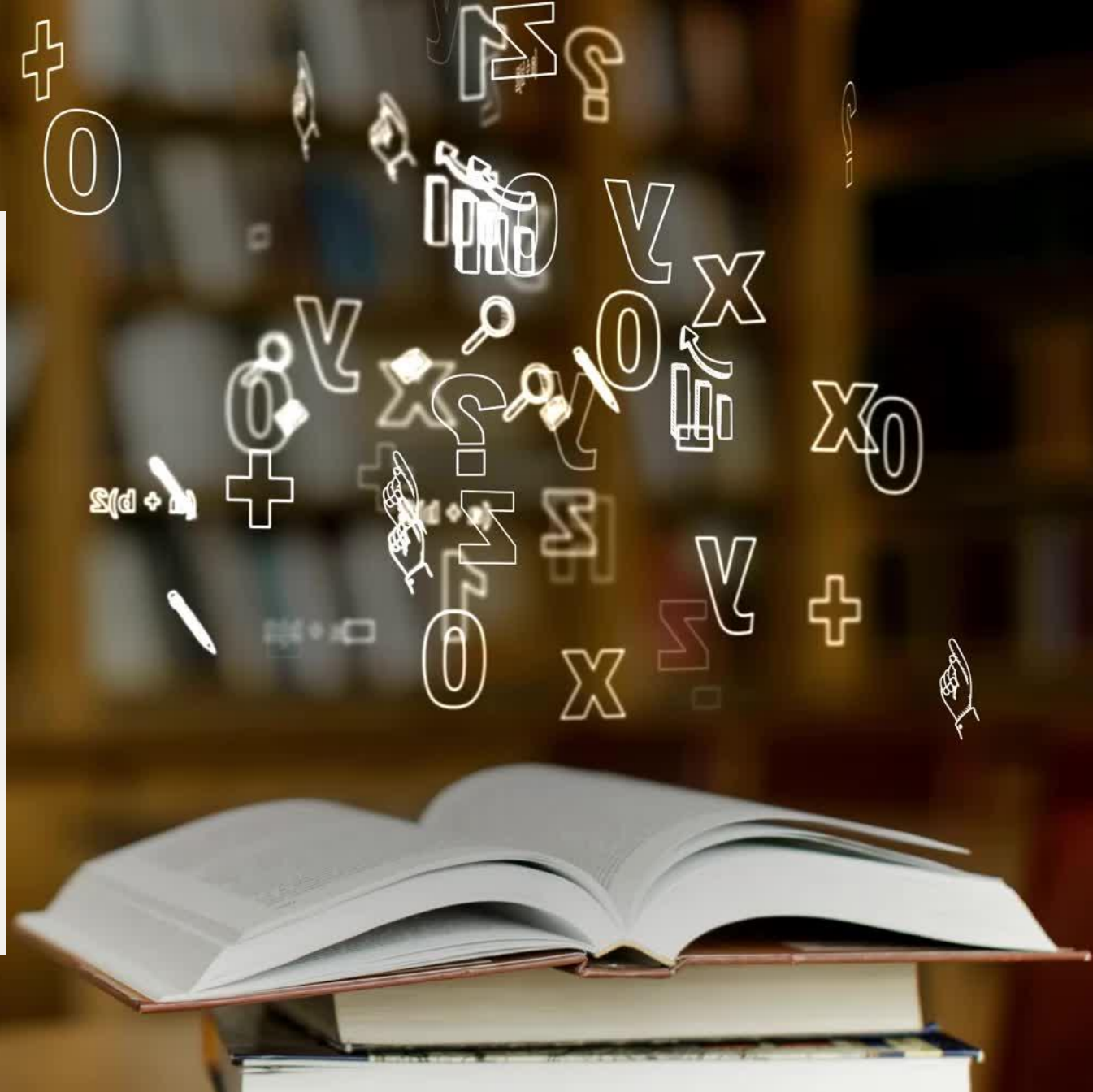
Based on
Jesus'
words...

The Holy Spirit is not
just linked with "truth"
but also with "wisdom."

What is wisdom?

Wisdom

Some people define wisdom as knowing what to do with knowledge.





Wisdom...

"Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit.

Wisdom is knowing not to put it in fruit salad."

So...

In this season of Pentecost, we want to emphasize what it means to walk in the Spirit.

So, we grow in wisdom and learn how to use knowledge and truth we have obtained.

We trust that the Spirit teaches us, guides us, and inspires us.

Because of the Spirit, we can teach and inspire others—just as the disciples did all those years ago. The church remains, right?



A close-up photograph of a board game. The board is green with a pattern of colorful circles in shades of black, white, orange, purple, and yellow. Several wooden game pieces are scattered across the board: a green piece on the left, a yellow piece in the center, a black piece on the right, and a light-colored wooden piece in the foreground. A red die with white pips is also visible on the right side. The text 'Activity (again)' is overlaid in white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally. Below the title, a thin white horizontal line is drawn. Underneath the line, the text 'LET'S USE WISDOM TO PLAY THIS GAME ONE MORE TIME...BASED ON WHAT WE KNOW...' is written in a smaller, white, all-caps, sans-serif font.

Activity (again)

LET'S USE WISDOM TO PLAY THIS GAME ONE MORE
TIME...BASED ON WHAT WE KNOW...

Prayer

Call to Discipleship

The Lord's Supper
