

Bible study for the week starting June 12, 2022

SHARE

1. This week is Trinity Sunday. What's the hardest concept for you to grasp about who God is: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? What helps you understand Him best?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

- 2. Read **Proverbs 8:1-4**. In this book of wisdom, wisdom itself is personified. This comes to fruition as the full sum of the wisdom of God takes on human flesh in the person of Jesus. What do you glean in this picture of wisdom in these verses, especially through the lens that Jesus is wisdom in the flesh? How do you hear these verses, knowing what you know about the Triune God from other parts of Scripture?
- 3. Read John 8:48-59. The Athanasian Creed (the long one that we don't have memorized) talks about the "Trinity in unity." What kind of unity does Jesus describe when He talks about His relationship with the Father and the Holy Spirit? What do you hear in Jesus calling Himself "I AM" about His eternal nature?
- 4. Read Acts 1:12-26. Of all the stories that make it into the book of Acts, why did Luke include this one about selecting another apostle to round out their number? What were the qualifications, and how do they affirm God's presence and foreknowledge even in Judas' tragic end (not to mention the fact that they cast lots to pick Matthias)?
- 5. Most theologians speculate that though Judas followed Jesus, he never had true saving faith. What do you think (knowing only God knows)? Did it have to end this way?
- 6. At this point in time (pre-Pentecost), 500 people had been eyewitnesses of the resurrected Jesus, there were 11 disciples/apostles left, and about 120 believed. 24% odds of faith for people who *eyewitnessed* the resurrected Jesus?! Seems low, doesn't it? You have to speculate, but how do you account for that low number?

PRAY

7. Pray for faith and for God to use you as one who is sent to share the good news about Jesus, as well as for all other things going on in your life.



The God Who Acts: Next One Up. Acts 1:12-26 June 12, 2022 – Pastor Eric Van Scharrel

"We are seeing the death of <u>EVANGELISM</u> across denominational lines and in non-denominational churches." -Thom Rainer tinyurl.com/deathofevangelism

euangelizo = TELL the good news about Jesus

Is the Gospel an **EXCITING** thing in your life?

Evangelism is also <u>CHANGING</u>, just like many other things in the Christian Church right now.

The numbers at that time: $\underline{11}$ apostles, and a total of about $\underline{120}$ believers in the world out of $\underline{500}$ people who had witnessed Jesus resurrected.

"The harvest is PLENTIFUL, but the workers are FEW." -Matt. 9:37

"Perhaps one of the major reasons evangelism is dying is that many of our church members don't really believe Jesus is the ONLY way of salvation...Sadly, we see an increasing number of church membrers deny that Christ is the only way of salvation...There will be zero motivation and conviction to share the Gospel if you don't really believe people need to hear it to be saved." -Thom Rainer

"Never doubt that a <u>SMALL</u> group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." -Margaret Mead