

## **Ready to Respond**

### **How Can God Be Three in One ?**

A. W. Tozer “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us”

#### **Who is God ?**

God is Three Persons

Each person is fully God

Each person is co-equal and co-eternal

There is only one God

**Deut. 6:4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Isaiah 46:9 I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

The Trinity is not a contradiction because God is not three in the same way that He is one.

God is one in essence, three in Person.

#### **What are some heresies about who God is ?**

Polytheism                      “There are many gods”

Modalism                      “God is not three distinct persons”

Arianism                      “Jesus Christ is the Son of God, but is entirely distinct from and subordinate to God the Father”

#### **Any mention of the Trinity in the Old Testament ?**

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness,

**Gen. 3:22** And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil.

Gen. 11:7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

Isaiah 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

Psalms 110:1 The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."

### **New Testament verses**

Matthew 3:16-17 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

John 16:15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

### **What does the Trinity teach us about who God is ?**

God is personal

God is relational

1 John 4:8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

God is communal

There is unity and diversity in the community of the Trinity.

God is humble

God is self-giving

John 17:22-24 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved

me. "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

God is happy and joyous

John 17:13 "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.