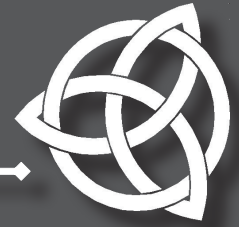




# TRI GOD



A PINECREST LIFEGROUP STUDY RESOURCE

**Sermon Title:** *The One and Only*

**Speaker:** Ray Schwartz

**Main Passage:** John 1:1-18

**Date:** April 25, 2010

## Getting Started

- » Share with the group something about yourself that makes you unique. It could be something unusual that you've done, some talent you have, some physical characteristic...you name it.
- » Have you ever thought of Jesus as your adopted Brother? Read Hebrews 2:11-13 and discuss this idea/concept with the group. How does this idea change your thinking about Jesus (if at all)?
- » How would you answer Jesus' question in Matthew 16:13...

**"Who do you say the Son of Man is?"**

## The Study

- » What challenged you the most in this morning's sermon? Did you gain any new insight into the Son or did any new questions come as a result of the sermon? What stuck with you the most?
- » Have someone in the group read **JOHN 1:1-18** out loud. What stands out to you in this passage? Why do you think John starts his Gospel with this particular imagery?
- » Jesus came as a human being, but He still fully God. According to **JOHN 1:12-14**, why did Jesus come to earth as a human being? As a group, discuss the significance of this truth. How does it help you to think about Jesus (God) walking in your shoes, dealing with the same types of struggles you do?
- » How do you reconcile Jesus being both fully God and fully man? Does it matter (hint: it does)? Much of the heresy in the early church revolved around Jesus' deity and humanity. Does the church (and/or the world) still struggle with this concept? Why is important to understand Jesus is God?
- » Ray described Jesus as the "Creator God" (see **COLOSSIANS 1:15-17**) in the sermon...have you thought about Jesus as Creator before? Look up other references in Scripture that depict Jesus as Creator and discuss why this is important. How does it affect your view of and relationship with Jesus?
- » Review the 5 characteristics that make Jesus unique and share your thoughts, ideas and reactions to the list. Which do you have difficulty understanding or accepting? Which are most important to you?
  1. He is God (John 5:22-23)
  2. He is the Creator God (Colossians 1:16-17)
  3. He is the Exceptional God (John 14:6)
  4. He is both Man & God (1 Peter 2:20-22)
  5. He is Alive! (1 Corinthians 15:3-5)
- » Ray identified two reasons that we follow Jesus Christ, because...
  1. He is LORD (Romans 10:9)
  2. He is Savior (2 Peter 3:18)

As a group, discuss what it means to recognize Jesus as LORD (*kurios*) and Savior. What is the significance of these two words? As a group, discuss how this applies to your own relationship with Christ (think about when you first met Him as well as now). How is He your Lord? Your Savior?

- » Many people today think that are "many roads to God". But Jesus says that He is the only way to have a relationship with God (see **JOHN 14:6**). Why do you think Jesus is so "exclusionary" on this point? Why is He the only way to God? How would you explain this to someone who isn't a Christian?

## Application

- » Share with the group how you first came to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. Was someone instrumental in that process? Did God use some situation or event to get your attention? How has that relationship changed over time? What is it like now?
- » If you identified the Son as your "Trinity Blindspot" in the first week of this series, how has this week's message (and/or your own study and prayer this past week) helped you build your relationship with Jesus? Share your experience with the group and any way that they can help you continue in this part of your journey.
- » Discuss how you typically interact with Jesus on a daily basis. How could you improve your relationship with Him?
- » As a group, connect with the Son in a way you might not normally do. This might include praying to Him directly, singing a few praise songs to Him, journaling, or anything creative you come up with. Focus on praising Him as your Lord, your Savior, and your access to a relationship with the Father.
- » Spend some time this week in the Gospels reading about Jesus' life and ministry. The book of John is a great place to start, but branch out into Matthew, Mark, and Luke as well—find stories that are in multiple Gospels and compare/contrast them. If you want an extra challenge, see if you can find references to Jesus in the Old Testament (hint: you won't find the name "Jesus" but He's there).
- » Are there any unanswered questions, thoughts, or ideas we haven't discussed yet? Well then, what are you waiting for?
- » Next week we unpack the role that the Holy Spirit plays in our lives. Some of us are tuned into the Spirit while others may not interact with Him very much. Consider doing your own Bible study this week and see what Scripture has to say about the Spirit (including the different names used for the Holy Spirit). If this is your Trinity "Blindspot", you might want to pick up one of the following books to do some in-depth study as well: *The Indwelling Spirit* by Andrew Murray or *The Forgotten God* by Francis Chan.

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## Caring Community

- » **SHARE** with the group how God has been speaking into your life or challenging you this past week (this may be as a result of the sermon or something in your personal journey). Is there anything from this week's LifeGroup discussion you need to work on?
  
- » Are there any **NEEDS** you have coming up in your life that the group can help you with (this may include spiritual needs, life needs, pretty much anything...)
  
- » **PRAY** for one another. Share your requests and praises with one another. Write them down here. If you commit to praying, please be sure you do it...

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