

Sunrise Christian Church

March 2019 Family Newsletter

Called by God to Love, Learn, Lead

Great is God's faithfulness



(The prophet) Samuel cried to the LORD for Israel and the LORD answered him. Now Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, and the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. But the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day against the Philistines and confused them, so that they were routed before Israel. The men of Israel went out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, and struck them down as far as below Beth-car.

Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the LORD has helped us." **I Samuel. 7:9-12**

God is faithful

One woman wrote: "Looking back on my life I just cannot help but praise the Lord for His faithfulness. It is obvious how His hand has been upon me and a joy to see how He continually is working all things for His glory and my good. He has been with me on the mountain tops and the low valleys. He takes the low blows dealt by the enemy and brings beautiful things out of them. I can look at the hardships from the past and know that in the struggles to come He will never leave my side.

I've been a believer for as long as I can remember. I grew up in the church and with parents telling me about Jesus and praying with me since as far back as my memory goes. I remember as a little girl wanting Jesus to live in my heart. Now I'm not sure as to what degree I could understand and comprehend, but I did want that, and as I grew my understanding of Him grew and turned into a relationship. Now I suppose whenever that relationship started was when I would actually say I was a follower, but that's the thing, I don't really know when that defining moment was. Looking back on my life there are so many defining moments in my faith. Maybe it was that first hardship in my life where my faith really did become my own. My dad had been diagnosed with Lyme Disease when I was in 4th grade and

the reality of that sickness began to sink in as I got a little older. I remember a specific time when he had to leave church early, and my mom, sister, and I came home and thought he was dying. I was in middle school and I didn't have anyone to talk to about this. No one understood. So, I started talking to God. It was a mixture of knowing I needed God, but also being mad at Him. So many "Why God? Why's". I think this was the first time I had to decide if I would continue to trust God, and I think that was also the first time I realized God was the only one who would ALWAYS be there for me. And He was and He has been. He has given me a scripture that I have always loved- Jeremiah 29:11: "*For I know the plans I have for you*", declares the Lord, "*plans to prosper you, not to harm you, plans for a future and a hope.*" She concluded with this: "I know this doesn't mean I will have smooth sailing for the rest of my life, but it does mean He is ultimately working things out for my good.

"Thus far the Lord has helped us"

**You will keep in perfect peace
those whose minds are steadfast,
because they trust in You.
Trust in the LORD forever,
for the LORD, the LORD Himself, is the
Rock eternal- Isaiah 26:3-4.**

Understanding the Trinity

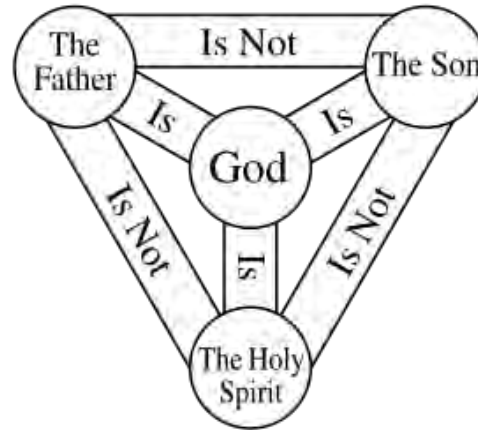
The very idea of the trinity is “three in one.” And when it comes to God, it explains the difficult concept of three persons being in one God. Not three gods, nor the same person appearing in three forms. Instead, it is that the three persons of the God head are God. That they work in such unity that the three are “one.”

We find scripture evidence for this in the very first book of the Bible- Genesis. There it speaks of God creating the heavens and the earth. Yet the word used there is “Elohim,” a singular word meaning multiple of persons. For example, Genesis 1:26, where God (Elohim) says, “*Let us make man in our image, in our likeness.*” Yet, later, in Isaiah 44:6, God says, “*I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.*” Yet, He speaks of a son, saying, “to us a son is given, and the government will be upon his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Later, Jesus would ask his close disciples, “*Who do you say I am?*” Their response was to proclaim: “*You are the Messiah, the Son of living God*”- Matt. 16:16. Later still, Jesus would heal a paralyzed man, first telling him, “*Son, your sins are forgiven*”- Mk. 2:5. This upset some of the religious leaders who knew that only God could forgive sins. So, Jesus responded: “*Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘I tell you, get up, take your mat and walk’? But I want you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.*”

In the book of Acts is the story of Ananias and Sapphira, who had lie about a sum of money they had given. In this story, Peter proclaims, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie

to the Holy Spirit, ... you have not lied to men but to God!” (Acts 5:3-4).

This is why Jesus commanded the church to make disciples by baptizing them in the name of the “Father, Son, and Holy Spirit”- Matt. 28:19.



The Shield of the Trinity diagram symbolizes aspects of doctrine of the Trinity.

Events:

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**Dick Scott's celebration of life service- Saturday, March 2, at 11am, at Boise Bible College's chapel.*

**Baskets of Love food collection & Crockpot Sunday- Sunday, March 3.*

**Hope Pregnancy Center's Spring Banquet- Friday, March 8, Four Rivers Cultural Center*

**Faithful Men men's breakfast- 7:30am, Saturday, March 9, at Rusty's.*

**SCC's Movie Night- 7pm, Wednesday, March 20.*



Spring Fever

Four high school boys afflicted with spring fever skipped their morning classes. After lunch they reported to their teacher that they had a flat tire. Much to their relief she smiled and said, "Well, you missed a test today so take seats apart from one another and take out a piece of paper." Still smiling, she waited for them to sit down, then said: "First Question: Which tire was flat?"

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Two travelers were sharing their experiences over a cup of coffee. The first one said, "I'm from the east coast- all we have is boring seasons- winter, spring, summer, and fall." The other traveler exclaimed: "You think that's something? You ought to try my state- California, all we get is wind, fire, mud, and earthquakes!"

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While sitting in the barber's chair, Fred shared, "The pastor came to visit the other day. He said that at my advanced age I should be thinking of the hereafter.

I told him, 'Oh, but I do- all the time.' "No matter where I am - in the living room, upstairs, in the kitchen, or down in the basement, I am always asking myself: 'Now, what am I here after?'"