The Trinity

Basic Theology Training

One God, three persons//

Father, Son, Holy Spirit//

Uniquely Christian//

New Horizons
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Pause and Breathe
Before diving in, pause for a moment. Take a deep breath. Like Ryan reminded us: this topic might be one of the most challenging and nerdy of the Bedrock sermons, but it is worth sitting in the tension and mystery. Ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind as you reflect.

Why This Sermon Matters
This is one of the foundational messages in the Bedrock series: it focuses on the Trinity — one of Christianity's oldest and most profound mysteries. Ryan emphasizes that we are not here to fully solve or explain God; instead, we are invited to worship Him, to stand in awe of His nature as one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You don't need to walk away with a perfect analogy or formula. You need to walk away more in love with the God who cannot be boxed in.

Core Truths About the Trinity

1️⃣ There Is One God in Three Persons
Genesis 1:1-2, Genesis 1:26, Isaiah 6:8
From the very first pages of Scripture, we see God hinting at His triune nature: "Let us make human beings in our image." Throughout the Old Testament, God is revealed as Father and Spirit. In the New Testament, Jesus steps forward as the visible, incarnate Son.

<u>Reflect:</u>
How do you respond to the idea that God is both one and three?
Why do you think God chose to reveal Himself this way?

2️⃣ Analogies Fall Short — Be Cautious
Ryan walks us through popular analogies (water, egg, three-leaf clover, sun-light-heat) and explains how each, though well-meaning, falls into historic heresies (modalism, partialism, Arianism, emanationism).

<u>Reflect:</u>
Which analogy have you used or heard the most?
How does realizing its limits shift your thinking?
Are you willing to hold the Trinity as a beautiful mystery rather than a solved puzzle?

3️⃣ Revel in the Mystery
Romans 11:33, Isaiah 55:8-9, Job 11:7-9
Instead of shrinking God down into human categories, we are called to marvel

at His transcendence. As Ryan said, “A God small enough to figure out is not a God big enough to worship.”

Reflect:

Where in your life do you resist mystery and insist on control?

How can you intentionally create space this week to worship God just for who He is, beyond what you can fully grasp?

The Invitation

At the end, Ryan shared Brian’s story: when Brian asked God, "How shall I describe You?" God answered, "Do not describe My color — become My color." The call is not to explain God, but to embody Him. To let His nature, His presence, His love shine through us so others encounter Him.

Reflect:

What would it look like for you to become God’s color this week?

How can you reflect His love, grace, and truth to those around you?

Dig Deeper Questions

- What part of the Trinity is hardest for you to understand — Father, Son, or Spirit? Why?
- How has your view of the Trinity grown or shifted after this sermon?
- Where have you relied too much on human analogies to explain God, and how can you embrace holy mystery instead?
- How does the relational nature of the Trinity shape how you think about community and love?
- How can your daily life reflect the reality of the triune God you worship?

Recommended Next Steps

✔ Read John 14–17, where Jesus speaks deeply about His relationship with the Father and the Spirit.

✔ Meditate on Romans 11 and Isaiah 55 this week, focusing on God’s wisdom and transcendence.

✔ Explore "We Believe" resources from the Church of God (Anderson) to deepen your doctrinal understanding.

✔ Journal or pray each day, asking God to help you embody His nature rather than just explain Him.

Final Thought

You are invited into relationship with a God who is beyond your wildest imagination. Not so you can control or dissect Him, but so you can worship Him, know Him, and become His color to a world desperate for His light.

Let this week be marked not by answers, but by awe.

Small Group Questions

- How does the mystery of the Trinity challenge or deepen your understanding of God?

  📖 Read Matthew 28:19 — How does Jesus' command connect us to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

- Why is it important to affirm that God is one Being in three Persons, and not three gods?

  📖 Read Deuteronomy 6:4 — How does God's oneness shape our worship and theology?

- How do the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit work together in our salvation?

  📖 Read Ephesians 1:3–14 — What distinct roles do you see for each Person of the Trinity in these verses?

- What are some common misunderstandings about the Trinity you've encountered, and how can we clarify them biblically?

- How does embracing the mystery of the Trinity lead us to awe and worship rather than frustration or confusion?