

## ELEMENTAL – Week 2: Trinity: (Tr)

We are excited to take this journey with you into God's Word. We began last week (09/25) and will continue for 8 more weeks in hopes that this devotional study will reinforce in *your* life what Christians have been hearing from Him for the past 2,000 years. We live in a day of second-hand information: Teachers, pundits, reporters, preachers, authors, etc. Most of us have little more than a vicarious understanding of the Elemental beliefs that define who we are as the church... that define who we are as Christians. We pray this next 8 weeks will be an opportunity for you to hear from God 1<sup>st</sup> hand as you draw near to Him through His revealed Word – the Bible.

**What we believe is what makes us.** Each week will have 5 readings related to the sermon that was preached at the beginning of the week. Think of the sermon as an introduction, and the 5 readings and thought-provoking questions as your further exploration and opportunity to hear from God.

### Day 1: John 16:13–15

1. Circle in your bible the Trinity in this passage: Father, Son and Holy Spirit
2. How does the Trinity work in relationship with each other and in relation to us?
3. What is the purpose of God in this passage?
4. What do you think is the right response of the believer to this passage?

### Day 2: Romans 8:9–11

1. Circle in your bible the Trinity in this passage.
2. What is the relationship of the Spirit to the Father and the Son?
3. What is the Spirit's role in this passage? What does He do?
4. How can you respond to this passage?

### Day 3: Ephesians 4:4–13

1. Circle in your bible the Trinity in this passage.
2. What is the relationship of God to the church?
3. What is the goal of the Triune God for the church in this passage?
4. How can you respond to this passage?

### Day 4: 2 Corinthians 3:1–6

1. Circle in your bible the Trinity language in this passage.
2. What is the role of the Spirit in this passage?
3. What is the role of Christ the Son in this passage?
4. What role does God the Father play in this passage?
5. How can we as believers respond to the truth of this passage?

### Day 5: Acts 1:1–8

1. Circle the Trinity language in this passage.
2. What is the relationship between Jesus and the Holy Spirit in this passage?
3. What is the relationship between the disciples (the church) and the Holy Spirit in this text?
4. What are the two things this passage informs us about the Father's role?
5. How can we as believers respond to the truth of this passage?

## Life Group Questions For Discussion

*Use any or as many of these questions as will be helpful for your discussion.*

- Discuss anything you heard today that made a particular impact on you, and why.
- How would you describe The Trinity to an unbeliever? To a new believer?
- What does the “hierarchy” or “order” or “primacy” in The Trinity reveal to us about our own church community?
- What are the inhibitors to the same level of mutual submission and love in our context?
- Why is the doctrine of The Trinity so critical? In other words, discuss and describe the things about Christianity that are no longer present if The Trinity is not so.
- Read Revelation 21:22-27 aloud. Why do you suppose there is no mention of The Holy Spirit (while there is of Father and Son)? What do you suppose this indicates? Is it significant? Why or why not?
- How well does our church allow or even encourage diversity? Do you think more could or should be developed to propagate diversity? How so?
- What are some of the dividing factors among churches in our context? What do you think is more difficult to overcome: Socio-economic status? Age? Race? Other?
- Read aloud Isaiah 6:8. In the context of Isaiah 6, how would you interpret and apply “us”?
- What would your life look like if it were *really* lived for someone other than yourself?

### Memory Verses (Fighter Verses)

**This Week: 1 John 4:16**

### Prayer Focus

#### For the Vision and Direction of Bethel – Both Campuses:

Bethel Bible Church will be a people that experience life-change together. We will seek to experience and exhibit mutual submission in love such that God’s character is revealed in and through us to a dark world.

### Missionary Support

The Refuge of Light, an after care facility for female minors rescued out of domestic human trafficking, is hosting a city-wide fund-raiser on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at Bergfeld Park in Tyler. Pray that God would be pleased to stir the hearts of His people to give generously to this endeavor!

Also, Oct 8th is Bethel's next service day Bethesda Medical Clinic. Any medical professional is encouraged to help serve the un-insured of Smith County. Bethel fully staffs the clinic with administrators, translators, nurses, doctors and anyone who wants to play with kids in the waiting room. We'll typically see up to 40 patients in the morning from 8 - noon. Contact Rachael Putman <[rachaeloputman@gmail.com](mailto:rachaeloputman@gmail.com)> for more information.

### In Response to the Text:

- Praising God for His model of unity, harmony, love, and mutual submission.
- Praising God for His accessibility through His Word, by His Son, and with His Spirit.

### Further Resources for Study and Preparation

*Systematic Theology* (Chapter 14) – Wayne Grudem

*On The Trinity* – Augustine

*Understanding The Trinity*– Alistair McGrath

*Knowing God* (pages 57-63) – J.I. Packer

### Next Week’s Text: Hosea 11:1-4

