

Series: THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

Title: Heaven's Math

Speaker: Bob Marvel

Date: March 21-22, 2020

As you begin, read Romans 12:11-13 attentively. Bob tagged these verses as a prescription for us in in the Corona Virus. Spend a moment asking God to keep our spiritual fervor strong. Thank Him that we can have community online. This could be a prayer throughout the crisis.

* Questions are key.

**Questions can help us think through how we can have healthy community during the Corona Virus crisis.

*1. What does the word trinity mean?

*2. What is the heart, the essence of the doctrine of the Trinity?

*3. If the Bible doesn't use the term trinity, why should we use it or think it's true?

*4. If the brightest theologians can't comprehend the Trinity, why try to understand it? See 1 Timothy 4:16.

"If you deny the Trinity, you will lose your soul. If you try and explain it, you will lose your mind." - Augustine

5. How do the following verses suggest that the one God could be three persons? Isaiah 6:8; Isaiah 48:16, Isaiah 61:1, and then Luke 4:16-19.

*6. How do the gospels show Jesus believed in the Trinity?

7. Bob mentioned a number of illustrations of the Trinity that don't hold water. Which ones can you recall? Why are they off track?

8. What did Arias teach about Jesus and how did it influence the church? What famous creed that came to define orthodoxy came from this controversy? (Hint: it starts with N _ _ _ _ _ and it's on the back page.

*9. What well known religions do not hold to the belief in the Trinity?

10. Why do we say that Jesus is the eternal God who became a man, not a man who became God?

11. What New Testament book (Hint: it's written by Paul) is called the Trinitarian Epistle? (Hint # 2: the book starts with E). How does the first chapter illustrate the work of the Trinity?

*12. If the Trinity lives in community and we all are made in the image of God, what does that say about our need for community? Can you be godly and not be in some kind of community?

**13. How does the Trinity go about making decisions? See John 6:38 & 4, John 8:54, John 12:28, John 17:4, John 10:17 & 18.

**14. Thinking about the unity within the Trinity discuss this: If someone in your group thinks the virus is way overblown and someone else sees it as genuine emergency, how do they work that out?

15. Is the Holy Spirit a divine force or a real person? How does he relate to the Father and the Son? See John 16:13.

16. What comparisons do you see between God the Father and God the Son in John 1:1ff. And God the Father and God the Spirit in Psalm 104:30?

*17. Can we pray to any member of the Trinity? Does it matter? Read 1 Timothy 4:16

Pray to the Father, in the name of Jesus, in the power and under the direction of the Holy Spirit. See 2 Corinthians 13:14.

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty; Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father... And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified.