













## Small Group/ Reflection Notes

23-03-2025		Trinity 4	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> When did you last dance?		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> Why are we not just physical (bones, fluids, nerves, organs..)? What does it mean to be 1) <i>body</i> ? 2) <i>Mind</i> ? 3) <i>Spirit</i> ? If we're made in the image of God, why should we not be surprised there's something of trinity within all of us? <input type="checkbox"/> What makes you a ' <i>person</i> '? <input type="checkbox"/> What does it mean that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are each a separate, if ultimate, Person? What does this make possible for us? <input type="checkbox"/> Greek philosophers, like Aristotle, believed that God was static, unmoved, fixed, and in control of everything/ everyone. Any show of emotion or need for relationship was, to them, a sign of weakness – being needy. <i>Why</i> might they have believed this? How does it compare to God's self-revelation in Scripture? As shown by Jesus? Does this Greek philosophy linger in the Church today? <input type="checkbox"/> By contrast, the Cappadocian Fathers (4 <sup>th</sup> Century, Eastern Turkey/ Syria) described the relationship/ interactions within Trinity God as <i>perichoresis</i> ( <i>peri</i> = 'around' + <i>choreuo</i> = 'to make room, give way'). Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are <i>like</i> three dancers, moving, reacting, anticipating one another: at times they appear as <i>three</i> ; at other times, they're so in-synch and fast, they appear as <i>one</i> . How helpful do you find this image of moving, dancing, dynamic, acting/ re-acting, God? Why? <input type="checkbox"/> How did/ does <a href="#">John 1:14</a> challenge Greek philosophy? When have you seen/ experienced moving, dancing God at work in your/ other's life? <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">1 John 4:7-12</a> : If God was only One (not also Three), could God exist as Love? What is narcissism? How does being Three – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – model 'God is Love'? Why does Trinity God make room for us/ others?		
 Read	<a href="#">John 14:5-17</a>	 Listen again	<a href="http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch">ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch</a> <a href="http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks">ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks</a>
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.6</a> : Why do Baptists generally give less weight to historic creeds and doctrinal statements? What, instead, do Baptists emphasise? e.g. The Baptist Declaration of Principal states, " <i>That our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters relating to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures...</i> " <input type="checkbox"/> How might reducing the whole of the Bible – and all we know about God – to a few 'bullet points' (doctrinal statements/ Creeds) risk not embracing the whole of the Way, Truth, and Life? <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.7</a> : What are those who only see Jesus as a good role model missing? Why do we say, "If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus." <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.8</a> : Why might Philip (a <i>Greek</i> name) have asked <i>this</i> question?		

	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.9-11</a> : What does this say about the relationship/ interactions between Father and Son? How did Jesus exemplify/ live the Trinity? <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.12-14</a> : How was Jesus challenging Greek philosophy? <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.15-17</a> : How does this reveal Trinity God? Does it suggest the Three Persons have totally separate roles or are in some way interchangeable?
 Go further	<input type="checkbox"/> What does the quality of relationship within Trinity God model for us in our relationships with one another?
 Reflect	<input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention? <input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why?
 Do	<input type="checkbox"/> Put some music on, feel the rhythm, and dance like no-one is watching! Feel the connection within your body
 Pray	Say this slowly and repeatedly:  <i>Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for evermore. Amen.</i>
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: [ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups](http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups)  
Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! [SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk](mailto:SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk)

Small Group/ Reflection notes written by Ruth McIntosh.