

SERMON NOTES Sunday 27th May

sunnysidechurch

God is three and God is one: John 3.1-17

Sermon outline

Introduction

- Trinity Sunday: celebrate central belief of Church that God is three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - but one God
- Belief taught in the Bible e.g. Creation, baptism of Jesus, conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus

God is Father

'God so loved the world that he gave'

- God is active in the world and our lives
- God takes the initiative so we can be reconciled with him (Parable of the Prodigal Son)

God is Son

'his one and only Son'

- Jesus has paid the price of our sins so we can live in relationships with our heavenly Father
- Jesus is 'the way, the truth and the life' (John 14.6)

God is Spirit

we need to be 'born of the Spirit'

- Spirit is Jesus living in all who believe in him
- Spirit teaches, comforts and transforms us

Conclusion

God invites us to join in the dance of the Trinity and share that invitation with others

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God invites us to join in the dance of the Trinity and share that invitation with others

Some questions for discussion

1. The Trinity is a central belief of the Church. How do you understand it?
2. God is Father.
 - What is your image of God the Father?
 - How does John 3.16 deepen your understanding?
3. God is Son
 - What is your understanding of Jesus' God-given role?
 - How does Jesus' claim to be 'the way, the truth and the life' challenge you or deepen your understanding of his calling?
4. God is Spirit
 - How do you understand Jesus' claim that 'You must be born again' [of the Spirit]?
 - How is the Spirit transforming you?
5. St Augustine said that we are invited to live in the Kingdom of God and not just look at it. How does the story of Nicodemus help you understand this? (Nicodemus also appears in John 7.50-52 and John 19.40)
6. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through this passage? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

Why not take some time to worship God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Revd Rebecca Fardell

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