

Sunday Thanksgiving Service for Children and Adults. Trinity Sunday 2018.

Who understands the Trinity? Who could explain the Trinity? One of the best explanations I have heard was ...

Last year I vividly remember Paul showing us the Apple, do you remember, with the skin, the flesh and the seed. He explained the skin was like the father all around about us, the flesh was the son who came down amongst us and the seed is the Holy Spirit, which goes on growing new life on the earth.

Ok then, that's it, the shortest sermon on earth ... oh I need to say a bit more do I? Ok ... Right ...

I'm going to ask you a series of questions, and what I'd like you to do is count how many times you put your hands up, because that will be my last question ok??

Ok. Who here is somebody's daughter or son? Ok every hand should be up!! We're all someone's daughter or we all someone's son.

Who here is someone's spouse?

Who amongst us is someone's brother or sister??

Who is someone's niece or nephew?

Who is someone's aunty or uncle?

Who is someone's friend?

Who is a school pupil?

Who is someone's work colleague?

Ok so, last question ... Who has put their hands up more than 3 times?

So all of you who have put your hands up, which I think is almost all of you? Right?

You are maybe a mother, you are maybe a daughter and maybe a sister?

So you could say you are 3 persons in that one person? Yes or no?

Some of you most definitely are someone's son, yes? And probably, someone's friend? Yes? And most probably are or have been someone's colleague?

So, I want to ask you:

Are you the same person to your colleague as you are to your mother or father?

Are you the same person you are with your friend as you are with your child?

Are you the same person you are with your school friend as you are with your teacher, mother or aunt?

So you could say that you too are more than one person at times? You are who you are in any given moment with the person you are with.

Someone once said don't trust anyone who says they understand the Trinity. So, why is it so hard to understand the Trinity?

We are made in God's image, Father Son and Holy Spirit. When God was asked by the early Hebrews who he was, he answered them by saying, YAHWEH which a rough translation is, "I am who I am".

We are, who we are, and we're different depending on who we're with, in what situation we are in and in whose presence you might find us.

I'm sorry have I confused you in all this? Are you are having an identity crisis right now?

Do not worry, for one thing is sure, if you were to ask God, this minute, "Who the heck am I?" "Jacqui has just confused me far too much."

He will say to you, "My child - You - are - mine". YOU ARE MINE!!!

God knows you, like the palm of his hand, he knows who you are with your parents, he knows who you are with your siblings and he knows who you are when you are with various other people, but he ALSO knows the real you, the secret you, the deep down vulnerable you, the you who longs for love, the you who longs to love.

We humans are such complicated beings and at times we are more than 3 in one, (Mother, sister, daughter, wife, colleague, friend ... etc).

I don't claim to explain the Trinity but looking at ourselves it is easy to see how we can be more than just our plain old selves to others.

But, God is always just 3 in one ... he is our Father, who is all around about us. He is - The Son who took flesh and lived among us and He is the Holy Spirit who continues to be with us guiding and teaching us....

Yet always, He is our ONE true God now, as at the beginning, and always will be.

God bless you all.