

3.2 What is the Trinity?

Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Baptism	A Christian ceremony in which someone who wishes to join the church is sprinkled with water or dipped in water
Gospel	The four books in the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) that tell the story of Jesus' life and teaching
Holy Spirit	The third person in the Trinity; Jesus promised his disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit after his Crucifixion and Resurrection; it came on Pentecost.
Son	A person's male child
Father	A male parent
Trinity	In Christianity, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, considered as the threefold personality of God.



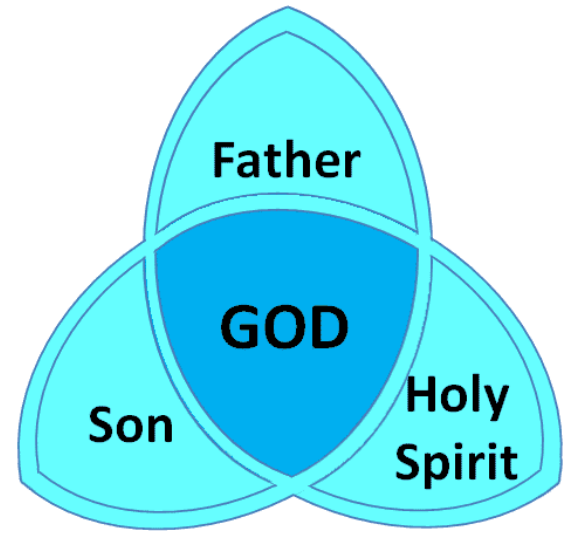
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Baptism
Christian baptism is a sacred act that symbolizes a believer's identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is typically performed by immersing or sprinkling water as a public declaration of faith and commitment to Christ, signifying spiritual cleansing and rebirth. Baptism also represents entry into the Christian community and obedience to Christ's command to follow Him.



The Christian religion is **Monotheistic** (a belief in one God). It is important to understand that this does not mean that Christians believe in three gods; they do not. Christians believe in one God who has three parts.

Key Questions to ask yourself
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •How did the Bible describe Jesus' Baptism? •How can the Trinity be represented? •How are the three parts of the trinity different?



The Trinity in art
The Trinity is often shown in art as God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit as a dove, highlighting their unity and unique roles. Symbols like a triangle or shamrock are also used to represent three persons in one God. These images show the Christian belief in God's triune nature and the connection between the three.