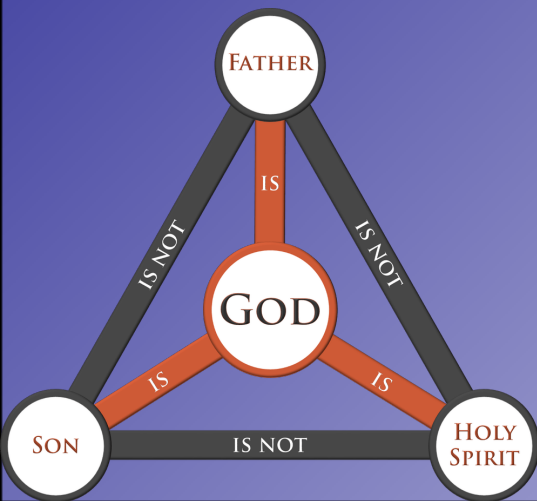


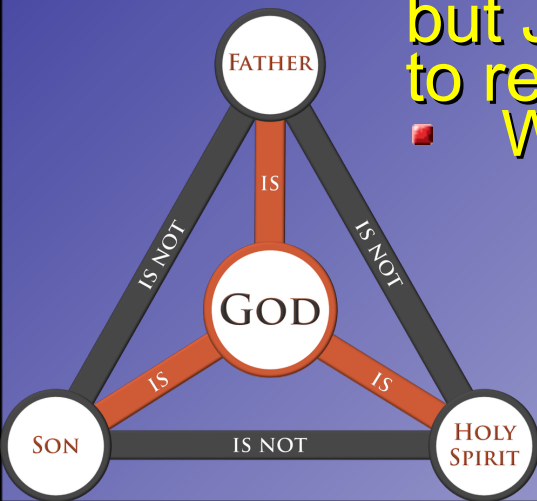
Pop Quiz

- Which Person of the Trinity do you think most people tend to feel the *least* connection to, relationship with, or clear conception of... and why is that?
 - If that's primarily a natural ripple effect of having no clear mental picture because the Holy Spirit has no physical form to conceptualize, then how is the *Father* physically described in Scripture?
 - For that matter, how is *Jesus* physically described in Scripture?
 - Why do we often have such clear (albeit not necessarily Biblical) mental pictures of *those* Persons of the Trinity, but not the Holy Spirit?



Pop Quiz

- Which Person of the Trinity do you think most people tend to feel the *least* connection to, relationship with, or clear conception of... and why is that?
 - If that's primarily a natural ripple effect of having no clear mental picture because the Holy Spirit has no physical form to conceptualize, then how is the *Father* physically described in Scripture?
 - In the Old Testament, the word for "Spirit" ("רוּחַ" or "*ruach*") is grammatically feminine in form, and in the New Testament, the word for "Spirit" ("πνεῦμα" or "*pneuma*") is grammatically neuter in form but Jesus repeatedly breaks with proper grammar to refer to the Spirit as a "He" (*John 16:13-14, etc.*)
 - Why might that be...?



The Apostles' Creed



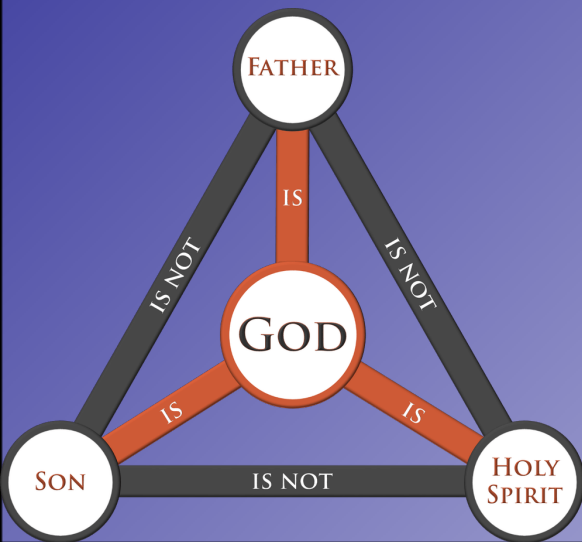
The Apostles' Creed

- *Intro to the Creed Itself*
- *God the Father*
- *God the Son*
 - *Christ's Birth*
 - *Christ's Crucifixion and Death*
 - *Christ's Death and Resurrection*
 - *Christ in Heaven*
 - *Christ as Judge*
- *God the Holy Spirit*



God the Holy Spirit

- “We believe in the Holy Spirit...”
 - And that's it.
 - That's the extent to which the Apostles' Creed covers the concept of the Third Person of the Trinity
 - Now, we had a whole Sunday School course on the Holy Spirit, like, four or five years ago, so I know that we can fill 20+ weeks with good discussion about Him but today, let's just try to make that one review session to remind us of what we know that we know...



God the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit was pretty active before Pentecost
 - Why is it that when most people think of the Holy Spirit, they tend to jump to Pentecost?
 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the Old Testament?
 - How *early* was He actively involved in things?
 - What did Genesis 1:1-2 say?



God the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit was pretty active before Pentecost
 - Why is it that when most people think of the Holy Spirit, they tend to jump to Pentecost?
 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the Old Testament?
 - How early was He actively involved in things?
 - What kind(s) of giftings do we see the Spirit providing in the Old Testament?
 - In what way(s) were these gifts what we'd usually think of today, and how were they different?
 - Why is that?



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 - How *early* was He actively involved in things?
 - What kind(s) of giftings do we see the Spirit providing in the Old Testament?
 - Read 1 Samuel 10:1, 5-7
 - What different sorts of things do we see God doing here with Saul?
 - He's choosing and living *with* Saul in vs. 1 and 7
 - He's telling Saul's future in vs. 5
 - He's empowering Saul in vs. 6
 - He's changing Saul *himself* in vs. 6
 - Which of these things can the Holy Spirit *still* do in our *own* lives today?
 - Which of these things do we *expect* the Holy Spirit to still do in our own lives today?



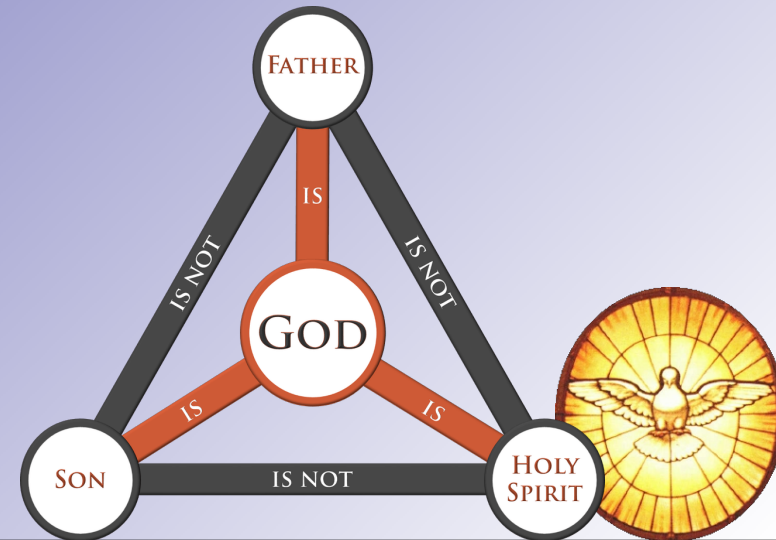
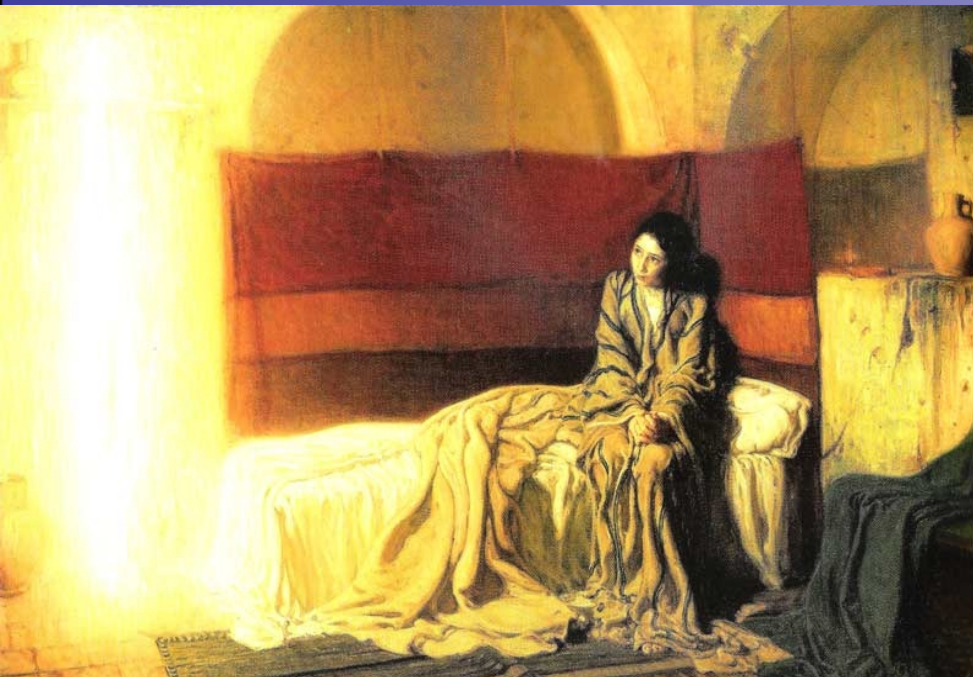
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 - How *early* was He actively involved in things?
 - What kind(s) of giftings do we see the Spirit providing in the Old Testament?
 - Read 1 Samuel 10:1, 5-7
 - When we think of the Holy Spirit loving and protecting His people, but also being grieved by them and standing against them in righteous anger (i.e.; in verses like Isaiah 63:9-14), does that affect our perceptions of Him?
 - How does that begin to point to the work of the Holy Spirit starting in the New Testament?



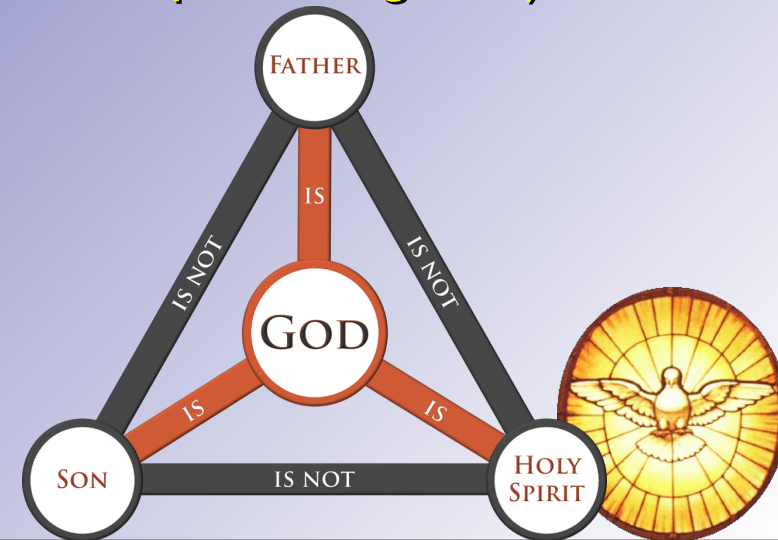
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 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the New Testament—*prior* to Pentecost?
 - How *exactly* are we told that Mary came to be pregnant?
 - How does this echo what people had *already* seen the Spirit doing in verses like Genesis 2:7, Job 33:4, Psalm 104:29-30, etc.?
 - So why is it significant that this *Son* of the *Father* is going to be conceived by the *Spirit*...?



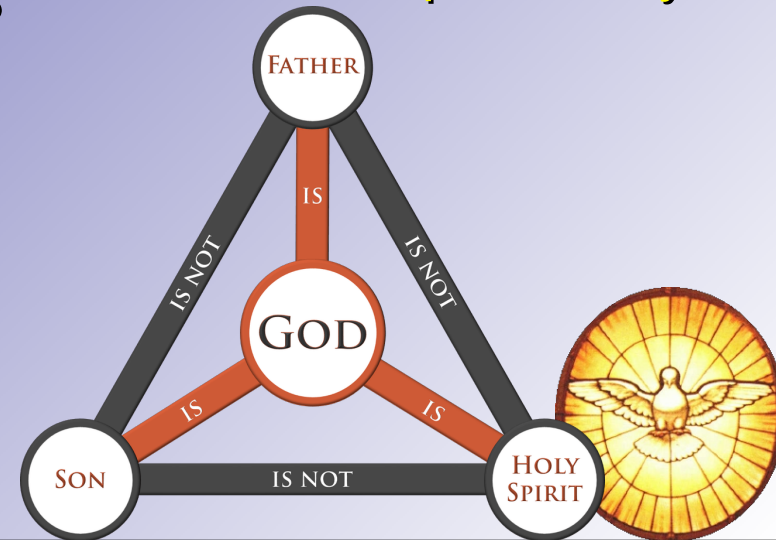
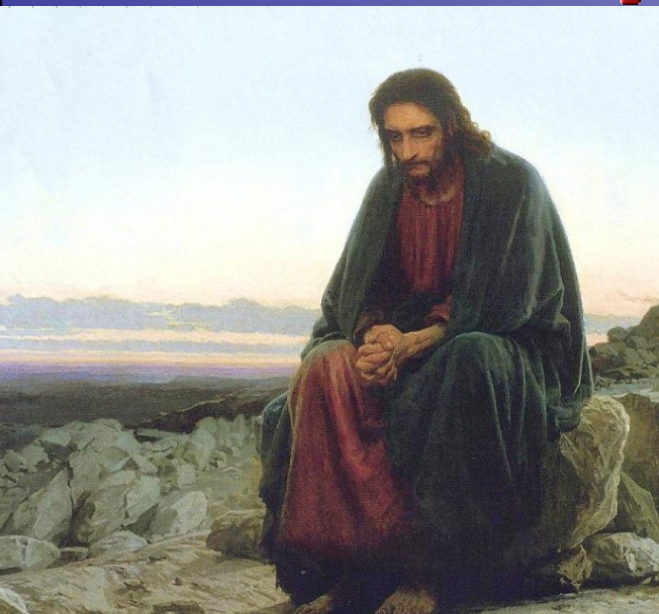
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 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the New Testament—*prior* to Pentecost?
 - How *exactly* are we told that Mary came to be pregnant?
 - How was the Spirit active in Christ's baptism?
 - Read Matthew 3:13-17
 - How is the whole Trinity involved here?
 - What had John prophesied to people back in Matthew 3:11?
(what exactly is “baptism” again?)



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 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the *New Testament—prior to Pentecost?*
 - How *exactly* are we told that Mary came to be pregnant?
 - How was the Spirit active in Christ's baptism?
 - Read Matthew 3:13-17
 - And what was the very next thing that the Spirit did *following* that baptism in Matthew 4:1?
 - So does the Holy Spirit act to affirm and support those whom He loves, or to lead us into potentially painful situations in life?



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 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the New Testament—*prior* to Pentecost?
 - How *exactly* are we told that Mary came to be pregnant?
 - How was the Spirit active in Christ's baptism?
 - What exactly happened at Pentecost?
 - So no believers had received the Holy Spirit into themselves *prior* to Pentecost?
 - If Christ had breathed His Spirit into people back in John 20:20-22, then what is the significance of this subsequent *baptism* in the Spirit?
 - Is that baptism something that we should desire today? Why or why not, and how so?
 - How is this “new life from death” expressed in baptism totally in keeping with everything that we've seen from the Holy Spirit, even in the Old Testament?
 - How did He change *Peter*?
 - How should He be working in and through *us today*?



God the Holy Spirit



Funky little teaching moment...

Does this word look familiar to anyone?

- It comes from the original Greek “παράκλητος” or “*paráklētos*” meaning “one called to be alongside” (depending in the context, that’s a “helper” or a legal “advocate” or a personal “counselor”) (the Septuagint [Greek] version of the Old Testament translates Job 16:2 as Job finally responding to his friends’ bad advice by telling them that they were “*miserable paráklētores!*”)

“All this I have spoken
with you. But the Adv
Paraclete, whom the
send in my name, will
all things and will re
everything I have said
Peace I leave with yo



God the Holy Spirit



Funky little teaching moment...

Does this word look familiar to anyone?

- It comes from the original Greek “παράκλητος” or “*paráklētos*” meaning “one called to be alongside”
 - Please read 1 John 2:1
“My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have a *paráklētos* who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.”
 - Please read John 14:16 (and the beginning of 14:17)
“I will ask the Father, and he will give you another *paráklētos* to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.”
 - Please read John 15:26-27

“When the *paráklētos* comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.”

- So how is the Holy Spirit an active “*paráklētos*” for us today—and how should that affect our daily lives today?

“All this I have spoken with you. But the Advocate, whom the Father will send in my name, will testify about me and will testify about everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you.”



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 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the Old Testament?
 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the New Testament—*prior* to Pentecost?
 - How had Christ expressed the concept of “new life in the Spirit” to people during His ministry?
(think of sections like when Jesus was talking to Nicodemus about being “born again” in John 3:1-8, or when the Lord called to Peter while he was in jail in Jerusalem in Acts 5:19-20, etc.)



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 - How had Christ expressed the concept of “new life in the Spirit” to people during His ministry?
 - Why does the Spirit give us *new* life through *new* birth—or, why can't the Spirit just give you *improvement* in your *existing* life? Why does something have to die?
 - How is this *new* life supposed to be fundamentally different from your *old* life?
 - How do you *personally* still too often feel conformed to the shape of this world instead of being transformed by the Holy Spirit?
 - Or is it okay to have a little bit of both?
 - Galatians 5:16-17 says that some people are controlled by their sinful nature, while others are controlled by the Spirit—so what's the *third* option?
 - How does that work out in everyday life?



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 - How do you *personally* still too often feel conformed to the shape of this world instead of being transformed by the Holy Spirit?
 - Paul also calls Him the “Spirit of adoption,” by whom we as Christians have been changed into adopted children of God—so can a child be *sort* of legally adopted into more than one family?
 - How do we as Christians still too often functionally live like that?

EITHER
OR



God the Holy Spirit

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 - Why is it that when most people think of the Holy Spirit, they tend to jump to Pentecost?
 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the Old Testament?
 - What do you remember about the Spirit's actions in the New Testament—*prior* to Pentecost?
 - How had Christ expressed the concept of “new life in the Spirit” to people during His ministry?
 - How does Paul describe that ongoing battle for us as Christians between “transforming” and “conforming”?
 - In Romans 8:8-16, how does the Spirit help us with our battle between our Godly spirits and our natural, fleshly inclination to sin?



- 1) He enables you to put to death your *sinful* deeds done in the flesh
- 2) Leads you and gives personal direction
- 3) Acts as a spirit of adoption by whom we—as beloved children—can cry, “Abba, Father!”
- 4) Testifies with your *own* spirit that you *genuinely* are God's child

What sort of character do you see in Him through His actions in these verses?



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 - How had Christ expressed the concept of “new life in the Spirit” to people during His ministry?
 - How does Paul describe that ongoing battle for us as Christians between “transforming” and “conforming”?
 - What element(s) about the Holy Spirit have stood out the most to you, personally?
 - So how can *all* of us consciously and actively work to live out our personal relationships with the Holy Spirit more vibrantly and healthily today?

