

# Let's Discuss...The Trinity

## PART 2\_How Do We Interact with the Trinity?



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### Scriptures mentioned:

*Pray like this: Our Father in heaven...*

Matthew 6:9a NLT

*At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children..."*

Matthew 11:25 NIV

*Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me..."*

John 11:41 NKJV

*After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so He can give glory back to you..."*

John 17:1 NLT

*I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.*

John 17:20-21 NLT

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## Summary

How do you interact with each person of the Trinity? Nohora shares honestly about how she has related with God in different seasons of her life, such as after her dad died and she really needed God as a Father. Simon talks about how we can have a free-flowing relationship with all three persons of the Trinity, rather than compartmentalising them.

## Definitions

### Abba

**Abba:** a Hebrew word for father used to express personal intimacy, similar to modern English words such as "Daddy" or "Papa"

**modalism:** a theological doctrine that denies the three distinct persons of the Trinity, and rather proposes that God is a single person who manifests in different "modes" or forms at different times and never simultaneously

## Let's Discuss...

- What are your thoughts on Modalism? What are the implications of having a modalistic understanding of the Trinity?
  - » Our church believes in Trinitarianism, as noted in Our Statement of Beliefs. Which view do you think most lines up with Scripture?
- Nora shares about how after losing her earthly father, her relationship with her heavenly Father became even more meaningful to her. Have you experienced seasons where you found it easier or more helpful to relate to a particular person of the Trinity?
- We talk about how it's ok to have a free-flowing relationship with the three Persons of the Trinity, while also mentioning how Jesus taught us to pray to the Father. Do you think there is a more correct way to relate to the Trinity? Who do you tend to speak to when you pray?
- Read Mark 14:36, Romans 8:15, and Galatians 4:6. Both Jesus and Paul refer to the Father with the affectionate, intimate term "Abba". Does this kind of relationship with God, like a child would have with their "Daddy", feel natural to you? If not, what would it take to cultivate this kind of relationship with Him? What hurdles would you have to overcome?
- Have we as humans gotten into the habit of trying to overexplain God? What are the pros and cons of this?

## Let's Pray...

*And because we are His children, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, "Abba, Father."*

Galatians 4:6 NLT

- However we relate with God, the point is that we do come to Him and nurture our

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*Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."*

Luke 23:34a NLT

*Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When He had said this, He breathed His last.*

Luke 23:46 NLT

*And because we are His children, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, "Abba, Father."*

Galatians 4:6 NLT

relationship with Him. Let's ask God to show us ways that we can lean into a more intimate relationship with Him, our Abba Father – whether it's through practical habits, mindset shifts that allow Him to seep into all that we do, or just a greater awareness of His constant presence with us.

## Let's Go Deeper...

- **Our Statement of Beliefs** by Hillsong Church [article]
- **The Wonderful Implications of God Being Our "Abba Father"** by Blair Parke [article]
- **Abba's Child: The Cry of the Heart for Intimate Belonging** by Brennan Manning [book]