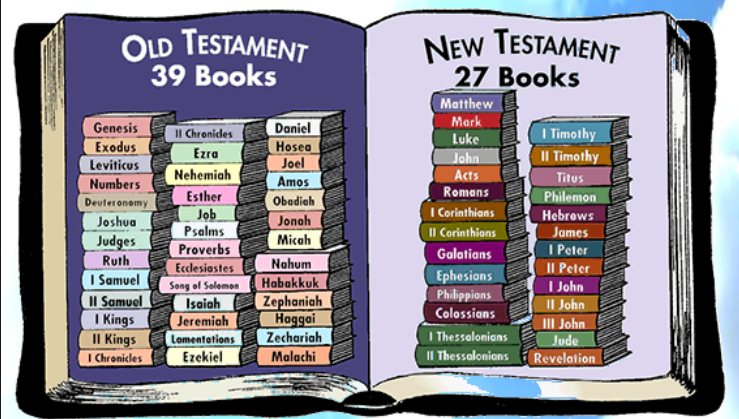




WHAT IS THE TRINITY?

In this unit, I will:

- note differences between John's Gospel and the other Gospels,
- offer suggestions about what the texts about God might mean,
- examine the Christian belief in God as Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
- learn that Christians believe the Holy Spirit is God's power at work in the world and in their lives today, enabling them to follow Jesus,
- give examples of what the Bible texts studied mean to some Christians and describe how they show their beliefs about God, the Trinity, in the way they choose to live,
- respectfully reflect on my learning and express my ideas and responses clearly.



In the context of the 'big story' of the Bible, God is the same throughout.

The role of God is the Creator and Father.

Jesus is the Son and Saviour.

The Spirit is the Comforter and Power of God.

These are mentioned throughout the Old Testament and the New Testament.



Many religions believe in one God: Jews, Muslims, Sikhs and Baha'i also say, with Christians, that God is one. Belief in the Trinity, however, is distinctive to Christianity.

- Christians believe God is Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Christians believe the Father creates; He sends the Son who saves his people; the Son sends the Holy Spirit to His followers.
- Christians find that understanding God is challenging; people spend their whole lives wanting to learn more and more about God.
- Christians worship God as Trinity. It is a huge idea to grasp and Christians have created art to help to express this belief.
- Christians really want to try to understand God better and so try to describe God using symbols, similes and metaphors, song, story, poems and art.

Vocabulary	
Trinity	Christians believe that God is Trinity: God as three in one.
Incarnation	In Christianity, the act of God coming to earth in human form as Jesus.
Gospel	One of the four books in the Bible about the life and teachings of Jesus.
Bible	The holy book of the Christian religion, consisting of the Old Testament and the New Testament.
Holy spirit	In Christianity, God in the form of a spirit.
Belief	An opinion about something; something that you think is true.
Faith	(in somebody or something) Trust in somebody's ability or knowledge; trust that somebody or something will do what has been promised.
Interpret	To explain or tell the meaning of (interpret the words, art, pictures, etc.)
Distinctive	Having a quality or characteristic that makes a person or thing different from others.

If the Trinity is Three in One, does that mean that the Holy Spirit is also the Father? The Son, also the Holy Spirit?