

# St Thomas Home Group

6<sup>th</sup> June 2023

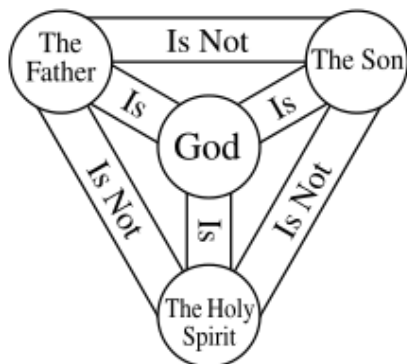
## Trinity

Read: Matthew 28:16-end.

Read the extract from the Athanasian Creed.

### The Study

- Q1 The Old Testament tells us of the monotheistic faith of God's people, in contrast to the polytheistic faith of the nations surrounding them. So why are the early Christians told to baptise new disciples 'in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit? What evidence for the Trinity could you draw from the Gospels?
- Q2 The Athanasian Creed has been used since the early 6<sup>th</sup>C and was the first creed to explicitly state the equality of the three persons of the Trinity. It was probably named after Athanasius because he was a strong defender of the Trinitarian faith in the face of various early heresies. The concept of 'one in three and three in one' is not easy to comprehend. Does the extract from the Athanasian Creed help?
- Q3 Do you find this drawing of the Trinity helpful?



- Q4 Which person of the Trinity do you most relate to Father, Son or Holy Spirit in daily life, and why?
- Q5 Does it matter who we pray to, the Father, or the Son, or the Holy Spirit?
- Q6 Is there a danger, that if we focus our attention on just one member of the Trinity, that we neglect the fulness of the Triune God? What aspects of God might we miss?



### The Trinity

by Andre Rublev (15<sup>th</sup>C)

also known as:

The Hospitality of Abraham

### Extract from the Athanasian Creed

The Father is made of none:  
neither created, nor begotten.  
The Son is of the Father alone:  
not made, nor created, but begotten.  
The Holy Ghost is of the Father and of  
the Son: neither made, nor created, nor  
begotten, but proceeding.  
So there is one Father, not three  
Fathers; one Son, not three Sons:  
one Holy Ghost, not three Holy Ghosts.  
And in this Trinity none is before, or  
after another: none is greater, or less  
than another;  
But the whole three Persons are co-  
eternal together: and co-equal.  
*From: Church of England, Book of Common Prayer*

Or

'The Father is God; the Son is God; and  
the Holy Spirit is God. And yet there are  
not three Gods, but one God.'