

Diary

Every Day 1:00 p.m.	Pray for one person for one minute at one o'clock.
Saturday 3 th April	Fasting – Easter is a special time of reflection please pray that people will be open to hear the Gospel.
Sunday 4 th April	First Sunday This is also Easter Sunday so we will combine a Special Easter Celebration with Breaking Bread. Please note that we will not be having lunch after this service.
Saturday 10 th April	Ladies Breakfast
23 rd to 25 th April	District Men's Weekend Aldershot
Saturday 24 th April	Men's Breakfast
April 30 th to 2 nd May	National Youth Convention further details available from Isaac or www.ntcg.org.uk .
Saturday 1 st May	Fasting
Sunday 2 nd May	First Sunday – we will be Breaking Bread together and sharing testimonies so come prepared. We will be meeting for lunch after this meeting.
Saturday 8 th May	Ladies Breakfast
21 st to 23 rd May	District Women's Weekend Aldershot
Saturday 22 nd May	Men's Breakfast
25 th to 27 th June	District Convention – Aldershot

Remember

Please make a special effort to attend as many of our meetings as you can especially the Prayer Meeting and Bible Studies. Sharing time together in Fellowship is important and helps us all to Grow Spiritually.

“We who had sweet fellowship together” Psalm 55:14

NTCOG NEWS

April 2010

Please read this newsletter carefully, make a note of the regular meetings, the special dates and make every effort to attend.

Our Mission

To present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the local community in a powerful, practical and relevant way.

To encourage every member of the Church to develop their God given ministry and to fulfil their potential.

Weekly Meetings

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
Popley Fields Community Centre
Carpenters Down
Popley
RG24 9AE

Monday – Hour of Power
7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Home Groups
Tuesday
7:30 pm

Thursday – Open Door
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

www.ntcog.org.uk

info@ntcog.co.uk

The Trinity

What does it mean when we say that we believe in God and how do we explain how the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit can all be God yet say there is only one God? Our denominational Basis of Faith says that we believe:

In one God eternally existing in three persons namely, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Collins Dictionary defines God as *the sole Supreme Being, eternal, spiritual, and transcendent, who is the Creator and ruler of all and is infinite in all attributes.*

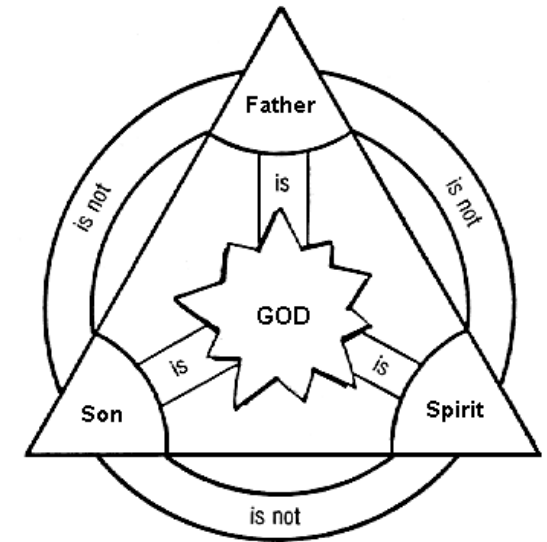
When we say that we believe in God first and foremost we are confirming that we believe in a Supernatural Being who existed before all things, who created all things and has absolute power over all things. This belief stands in direct contradiction to contemporary science that explains all things as an accident. This understanding of God as the source of all things is fundamental to the Christian faith.

The second thing that Christians believe about God is that there is only one God. This understanding of God's oneness comes from His revelation to us in the Bible "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one!" Deuteronomy 6:4 (NASB95) a verse quoted by Jesus in Mark 12:29. Whilst the world around us believes that there are many gods as Christians we stand firm to the belief that there is only one God.

In our pluralistic society this belief is often criticised and we face increasing pressure to accept that there are other gods. As Christians if we yield to the pressure of society and accept the validity of others gods we would be denying that God is God and would also break the first commandment "You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3 (NASB95).

The understanding of one all powerful God as the creator of all things is not unique to the Christian faith but the concept of the Trinity is. No other faith worships one God who can be known as three separate and distinct persons. As Christians our third belief about God is that we can know Him and address Him as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is this understanding of God as being one but also being three that is difficult for us to fully comprehend.

The Early Church used this diagram to help people to understand the relationships within the Trinity. It is an attempt to explain visually how the Father, Son and Holy Spirit together are God but also remain uniquely the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



Some Christians prefer to use the word Triune (or Triunity) rather than Trinity as they feel that the combination of the prefix tri (three) with one derived from the Latin *ūnus* (one) better represents the concept of the three (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) in one (God).

Whilst there are a number of verses in the Old Testament that allude to the Trinity it is in the New Testament that the Trinity is fully revealed. With references to the Father (...Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 1:7 (NASB95)), the Son (By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. 1 John 4:9 (NASB95)) and the Holy Spirit (Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit... 1 Corinthians 6:19 (NASB95)).

When we think of God the Father we think of His authority, holiness and righteousness. When we think of God the Son we think of His compassion, mercy and sacrifice. When we think of God the Holy Spirit we think of His presence, guidance and power. Our belief in God encompasses all three we believe in a God who has authority, is holy and righteous, we believe in a God who is compassionate, merciful and sacrificed Himself for us, we believe in a God who guides us, is present and empowers us. We believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Pastor Graham

Gift Aid

If you are a UK Tax Payers then the Government will give us 25 pence for every pound that you give so please consider using the Gift Aid envelopes for your tithe and offering.