



Preacher : Peter Hamlett  
Title :  
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Key Scripture :

## Notes

### Community – Communion – Connection – Commitment

- Trinity Sunday
- Explaining the Trinity at Sunday School:-  
+ Egg: shell, white, yolk; three make one  
+ Ice: water; steam; all different but all H2O
- No such explanation really works in comprehending the incomprehensible
- God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- One in three; three in one
- It's a spiritual truth ... .. can only be discerned (understood) spiritually (1 Corinthians 2:14) ... .. by *faith*.

Godhead, Trinity represents perfect and ultimate demonstration of Community and Communion working themselves out in Connection and Commitment. [Not just because they all begin with C!] God – in three persons - purposes us, His people, to live out the reality of reflecting His image and likeness and to personify the characteristics of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- People need engagement: even most superficial level. We are created for community.
- We long to belong and as God's people have a *responsibility* to belong.
- We often refer to Church as 'family'. I prefer 'community' but neither of these fully expresses God's intention for His people. So we have to turn to the Greek for a word which begins to do justice to what we're trying to describe. KOINONIA: communion, joint participation; the share which one has in anything, a gift jointly contributed, etc, etc, etc. It identifies the idealised state of fellowship and unity that should exist within the Christian church, the Body of Christ. Quite some definition ... ..

... .. and here's another one, this time describing communion: Intimate fellowship; rapport; harmonious relationship; characterised by agreement, mutual understanding, or empathy (fellow feeling) that makes communication possible or easy ... .. 'harmonious relationship': *How good and pleasant it is when God's people live in harmony* (Psalm 133 NLT))

- The communion of the saints ([Latin](#) *communio sanctorum*) ... The spiritual union of all true believers who together comprise the [Church](#), those in [heaven](#) and those of us who are living, on earth (Yes – US; God calls us Saints!) We are all part of a single '[mystical body](#)', with Jesus [Christ](#) as

## Personal Response

Meditate on:

Act on:

the head, in which each member contributes to the good of all and shares in the welfare of all.

- The hymn 'For all the Saints' assures us that 'All are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Hallelujah!'
- Another spiritual truth: Jesus has only ONE church! And He purposes with all of its members Communion with God, with His people and' flowing out from that, Connection with those to whom He intends that we reflect His image and likeness in, first of all, *being* who we are and then doing He calls us to do.
- Community and communion *demand* connectivity. The people of God cannot be the Body of Christ if there is disconnection.
- Extracts from 'The Blue Parakeet' by Scot McKnight:-

*God wanted [the ultimate expression of His creativity – you and me!] – to enjoy what the Trinity has eternally enjoyed ... .. perfect communion with [one another] ... .. Life is about 'oneness' – with God, with others and with the world ... ..*

- Oneness with Almighty God! What an indescribable, awesome, amazing privilege. But community and communion demand *commitment*. God required it in the Garden of Eden and we know only too well what the outcome was. For us to live in the good of *The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit* we must do it His Way and above all else respond to the command given by His Son ... .. *This is my commandment, that you love one another ... .. Why? That your joy may be full!*

When we celebrate in the time honoured manner what is often described as 'communion' let us consider John 17 the prayer which Jesus prayed on that evening when He gave what I will describe as an invitation, rather than a direction, to remember Him in this way. Community – Communion – Connection – Commitment; all embraced by Covenant, the New Covenant in the blood of Him whose death means that human relationships (broken by betrayal) and our relationship with God (broken by sin) can be – and, for all who believe, *are* - forever changed. Thanks be to God indeed!