



The Journey

HOUSTON

The Journey Church's Core Convictions

God

How Do We Do Theology?

Theological Method

1. We start with the Scriptures
2. We seek to understand a verse or passage in its original context.
3. We incorporate all of the relevant biblical data from throughout the Scriptures.
4. We compare our initial analysis to what other Christian thinkers have said. (This is where things like the Creeds and commentaries can be helpful.)
5. We summarize and synthesize what the Scriptures teach about that topic.
6. And finally, we seek to live in line with our beliefs.

Theological Triage

“All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness’ (2 Timothy 3:16). However, the apostle Paul said that there are certain doctrines ‘of first importance’ (1 Corinthians 15:3). We attempt to reflect this in our Statement of Faith below by distinguishing between our Core Convictions and Doctrinal Distinctions. [Our Core Convictions] are the doctrines that St. Vincent of Lerins called what ‘has been believed everywhere, always, and by all.’ These doctrines comprise ‘the faith that was once for all time handed down to the saints’ (Jude 3). To waver from these doctrines is to waver from the true Christian faith. At The Journey Church, members are required to affirm, uphold, and promote these Core Convictions.”

Gavin Ortlund’s Four Questions:

1. How clear is the Bible on this doctrine?
2. What is this doctrine’s importance to the gospel?
3. What is the testimony of the historic church concerning this doctrine?
4. What is this doctrine’s effect upon the church today?



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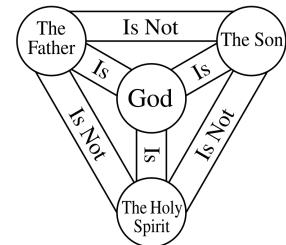
What is Our Theology (Proper)?

“The Christian Story is most fundamentally the Story of God. This Story reveals that there is one true God, Creator of all, who eternally exists as one divine essence in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Son was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary in the Lord Jesus Christ, truly divine and truly human. The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, brings people to saving faith in Christ, and indwells, transforms, and equips believers for service in the body of Christ. (Genesis 1:1–3; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 1:23, 28:19; Luke 1:35; John 1:1–3, 14; 16:8; 1 Corinthians 3:16, 12:3–7; Galatians 5:22–23; Philippians 2:5–8)”

The Trinity

“The biblical teaching on the Trinity embodies four essential affirmations:

1. There is one and only one true and living God.
2. This one God eternally exists in three persons—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3. These three persons are completely equal in attributes, each with the same divine nature.
4. While each person is fully and completely God, the persons are not identical.” (ESV Study Bible)



“Four statements must be understood and affirmed in order to attain a complete biblical picture of the person of Jesus Christ:

1. Jesus Christ is fully and completely divine.
2. Jesus Christ is fully and completely human.
3. The divine and human natures of Christ are distinct.
4. The divine and human natures of Christ are completely united in one person.” (ESV Study Bible)

Recommended Resources:

- *Delighting in the Trinity* by Michael Reeves
- The Nicene Creed: https://web.mit.edu/ocf/www/nicene_creed.html