WEEK 1: THE FATHER

MAIN SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 1-3

INTRO

What's up Faith Students! Welcome back after a small break, hope you all have a
great Christmas and are having an awesome start to the new year!

SERIES INTRO

- Tonight we're beginning a new series on the Trinity! This is a theological term that points to the reality that God is triune, or 3 in 1.
- Trinity
 - o Tri: 3
 - o Unity: one
 - 3 equal persons, 1 God
- NOT multiple gods, all 1
- To think we will ever *fully* understand the Trinity is to make the mistake of thinking God is fully understandable. God is infinite. He is beyond us.
- Believe it or not, the fact that God is too immense for our finite minds should be comforting, not discouraging!
- "If God was small enough for my brain to fully understand, He wouldn't be big enough to save me!"
- The authors of the Bible understood this. That's why they wrote words like we find in **Job 11:7-8**..."Can you fathom the depths of God or discover the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heavens—what can you do?"
- ...and Isaiah 55:9..."For as heaven is higher than earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."
- Simply put: God is big. While we never will FULLY comprehend + understand Him on this side of eternity, that doesn't mean we can't seek to <u>know Him</u> <u>better!</u>
- 3 persons of the trinity: Father, Son, Holy Spirit
- Tonight we're going to look at God the Father

WHO HE IS + WHAT HE DOES:

- Creator: (Genesis 1 + 2)
 - The first way we are introduced to God
 - The first thing we see Him do

- "In the beginning God <u>created</u> the heavens and the earth."
 Genesis 1:1
- A major part of the nature of God the father is creator
- "If you believe Genesis 1:1, you really have no problem believing the rest of the Bible. The God that's big enough to have created the heavens and the earth is big enough to do all the rest the Bible says that He did and does."
- Creation shows God's authority, power and presence over all things
 - God has <u>authority</u> over all things, because all things are created and under the creator
 - God is <u>present</u>, He was present + intentional in all parts of creation
 - God is <u>powerful</u>, He spoke and all things were created
- God the Father created the world/universe and man
- Father indicates a special relationship
 - God was understood to be the Father of Israel, not just because He created them, but because of the special relationship (redemption)
- God as father is important/intentional because it reveals the reality that God desires RELATIONSHIP

Redeemer:

- This relationship was broken + divided because of sin
- Adam + Eve chose disobedience and trusted the serpent + themselves instead of God
- Sin entered the world and our relationship with the father needed redemption
- We see a few foreshadowings of this in Genesis 3:
 - After Adam + Eve sinned they realized they were naked + felt shame and guilt, but God did this:
 - "And the Lord God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife." Genesis 3:21
 - God took an innocent animal and used it to clothe/cover Adam + Eve
 - This foreshadows that later God would take innocent Jesus + use His blood to cover + wash our sins
 - When God spoke to the serpent He said:
 - "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all animals, domestic and wild. You will crawl on your belly, groveling in the dust as long as you live. And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your

offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." **Genesis 3:14-15**

- This is a foreshadowing that Satan would strike the heel of Jesus, but Jesus would strike/crush the head of satan (cross + resurrection)
- God the father redeemed us by sending Jesus and marking us by His (Holy) Spirit
- Redemption is an act of the trinity, initiated by the father
- We have fallen and sinned, but He has redeemed us by the blood of Jesus + and restored us to right relationship with the father
- God the father is creator + redeemer!

ALTAR//

- God created you and has a plan + purpose for your life
 - His ultimate purpose is for you to have a relationship with Him!
- Salvation- Know Him
- Prayer + Scripture- Know Him deeper