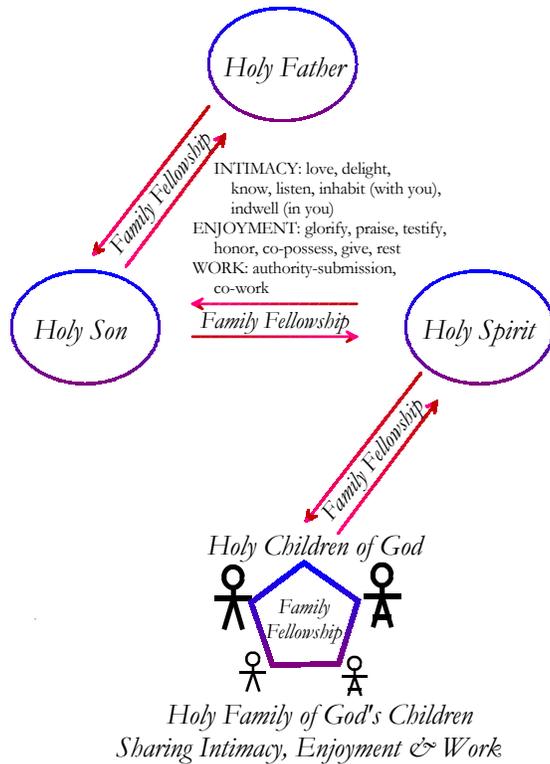


INTIMACY in The Trinity with and imaged in the Christian Family

The Fellowship of the Trinity with & imaged in the Christian Family



1 John 1:3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

and these know that you have sent me.

ESV Psalm 139:1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

ESV Romans 8:27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Loving:

ESV John 3:35 *The Father loves the Son* and has given all things into his hand.

ESV John 5:20 For *the Father loves the Son* and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.

ESV John 14:31 but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that *I love the Father*. Rise, let us go from here.

ESV John 15:9 *As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.*

ESV John 16:27 for *the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me* and have believed that I came from God.

ESV 1 Peter 1:8 Though you have not seen him, *you love him*. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,

ESV Matthew 22:37 And he said to him, "*You shall love the Lord your God* with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."³⁸ This is the great and first commandment.³⁹ And a second is like it: *You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*

Delighting:

ESV Luke 3:22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "*You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.*"

ESV Matthew 3:17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, "*This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.*"

INTIMACY in the Trinitarian Fellowship Imaged in Family

Summary Parenting Theme:

Everything important in the Christian family and Christian parenting is modeled and fulfilled in the Trinitarian fellowship and in the Trinity in relation to his people!

Knowing:

ESV John 10:15 just as *the Father knows me and I know the Father*, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

ESV John 8:55 But you have not known him. *I know him*. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but *I do know him and I keep his word*.

ESV John 17:3 And this is eternal life, *that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ* whom you have sent.

ESV John 17:25 O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, *I know you*,

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ESV John 6:27 Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. *For on him God the Father has set his seal.*"

ESV Psalm 22:8 "He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, *for he delights in him!*"

ESV Isaiah 61:10 *I will greatly rejoice in the LORD*; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

ESV Luke 10:21 In that same hour *he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit* and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

ESV Matthew 17:5 He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "*This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased*; listen to him."

ESV Matthew 12:18 "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, *my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased*. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.

ESV Jeremiah 9:23 Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches,²⁴ but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. *For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.*"

ESV 2 Corinthians 5:9 So whether we are at home or away, *we make it our aim to please him*.

ESV Philippians 4:4 *Rejoice in the Lord always*; again I will say, Rejoice.

ESV 1 Peter 1:8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and *rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory*,

ESV Romans 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of *righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit*.¹⁸ *Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.*

ESV Romans 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, *holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship*.

ESV Hebrews 13:15 Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are *pleasing to God*.

Inhabiting (with you):

ESV John 8:29 And *he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone*, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him."

ESV John 1:2 *He was in the beginning with God*.

ESV John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, *to be with you forever*,

ESV John 14:23 Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and *we will come to him and make our home with him*.

ESV John 16:32 Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for *the Father is with me*.

ESV Matthew 28:20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, *I am with you always*, to the end of the age."

ESV John 17:24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, *may be with me where I am*, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

ESV John 12:26 If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and *where I am, there will my servant be also*. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

Indwelling (in you/oneness?):

ESV John 14:10 Do you not believe that *I am in the Father and the Father is in me?* The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but *the Father who dwells in me does his works*.

ESV John 14:20 In that day you will know that *I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you*.

ESV John 10:38 but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that *the Father is in me and I am in the Father*."

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ESV John 15:4 *Abide in me, and I in you.* As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

ESV John 15:7 *If you abide in me, and my words abide in you,* ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

ESV John 5:38 *and you do not have his word abiding in you,* for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.

ESV John 10:30 *I and the Father are one.*

ESV John 17:11 And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, *keep them in your name,* which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

ESV John 17:21 *that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us,* so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,²³ *I in them and you in me,* that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

Listening/Hearing:

ESV John 11:41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, *I thank you that you have heard me.*⁴² *I knew that you always hear me,* but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me."

ESV John 3:32 *He bears witness to what he has seen and heard,* yet no one receives his testimony.

ESV John 5:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, *whoever hears my word* and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.²⁵ "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when *the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.*²⁶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.²⁷ And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man.²⁸ Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when *all who are in the tombs will hear his voice²⁹ and come out,* those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.³⁰ "I can do nothing on my own. *As I hear, I judge,* and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

ESV John 5:37 *And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard,* his form you have never seen,

ESV John 8:26 I have much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and *I declare to the world what I have heard from him.*"

ESV John 8:38 *I speak of what I have seen with my Father,* and you do what you have heard from your father."

ESV John 8:47 *Whoever is of God hears the words of God.* The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

ESV John 12:28 Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him."

ESV John 12:34 So the crowd answered him, "*We have heard from the Law* that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?"

ESV John 12:47 *If anyone hears my words* and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.

ESV John 16:13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but *whatever he hears he will speak,* and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

ESV John 14:24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And *the word that you hear* is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

Specific INTIMACY teachings related to families

CHILDREN:

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PARENTS:

Love:

^{ESV} Luke 1:17 and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, *to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children*, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

^{ESV} Romans 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection.

^{ESV} 1 John 3:23 And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

Chinese cultural models of intimacy

^{ESV} Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger,

How do parents get this INTIMACY into the hearts of their children?

^{ESV} Ephesians 6:4 Fathers . . . *bring up [your children] in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.*

Instruction

1. **Change the child's spiritual affections:** process by seeing & savoring the glory of Christ in Scripture (his character and beauty shown in the history of redemption) and reflected by his people.
2. **Increase the child's knowledge of the Bible, the way of salvation and gospel-of-grace oriented change, and the natural consequences of good and evil:** use Bible stories, moral stories (CD, DVD, books).
3. **Shape the behavior and speech to reflect love for God and people:** teach proper ways of loving by curiosity about people, learning to listen and spend time with people, learn to be led by the Spirit and the Word.
4. **Parental Modeling:** parents as examples of INTIMACY showing love, delight, knowledge, listening, with you & in you patterns in four dimensions evident to the child(ren): with God, with each other in the marriage, with the children, with those outside the family (relatives, friends, neighbors, fellow believers in the church). Parents guard their sexual intimacy by faithfulness to each other and model that to kids.

Discipline

1. **Self-knowledge→repentance: Where does the child pursue intimacy with things rather than God and people? Lead to repentance.** Through misbehavior and disobedience to parents and other authorities, frustrations with duties and relationships, the child should be gaining knowledge of his/her heart idolatries and sin patterns and be directed to repentance before God and seeking forgiveness from people he/she has sinned against or disobeyed. Use of the ROD up through age 8. This should help the child to fear and respect parents as representatives who point to the fear of the Lord as the beginning of wisdom, taking obedience seriously.
2. **Culture knowledge→Christian critique:** through increasing awareness of sin and evil in the world by exposure to books, media, TV, movies, teach the child not to love the world or the things in it (1 John 2:15-17), and to resist the temptations aroused by such evil. The parental goal must not be shutting out all influences of non-Christian culture, but inoculating children against it by permitting them to experience small doses of its evil realities and interacting with them on its dangers and destruction (as Proverbs themes show the end result of certain behaviors). Seeking sexual intimacy through pornography or relationships prior to marriage is key area of training and caution.

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- 3. Parental Modeling:** parents show their children how they deal with their own heart idols through example (Matt 7:1-5), leading the child to see parents as fellow sinners in need of God's Gospel of grace.

Keeping a prayer notebook for the child is a good tool to increase awareness of Gospel-of-grace methods of change and of self-knowledge (self-centered, heart-idol patterns that constantly re-occur).