

ACCESS Course

Session 1. Access Jesus

In this session, we locate the root of our life as community in God's Trinity, encountered in the person and work of Jesus, God's Son, placing it in the context of relationship with His Father and His Spirit as presented to us in the Scriptures. We also look at what we are called to as followers of Jesus, individually and together.

Matt 16.18 *I will build my church, and the gates of hell cannot withstand it.*

The church belongs to Jesus Christ so He, His revelation of the Father and the outpouring of His Spirit must be the start and end of our being together. (Col.1.18 he is the head of His body, the church; Mk 12.10 The stone the builders rejected is the cornerstone. – from Psalm 118)

Jesus is Lord

Romans 10.9 *'If you confess aloud Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be rescued.'*

- 1) Jesus is Lord = King (Caesar) and God (Adonai).
I am not Lord, He is. Our life of faith together is a walking out of that confession.
- 2) We entrust ourselves to the fact that God raised Him from the dead; resurrection is our hope and aim , new creation in Him .

The Right Foundations

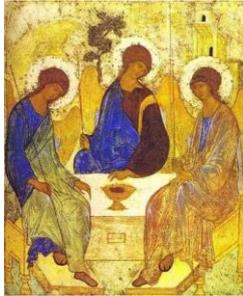
Acts 2.38 *'Then Peter said to them, 'Turn around, be immersed every one of you in the name of Messiah Jesus for the erasure of your sin and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'*

Simple steps of obedience, with a promise God wants to fulfil.

Living It Out With Others

Acts 2.42 *'They committed themselves together through the apostles' teaching, their common bond, sharing meals and praying.'*

Making Jesus Lord then brings us into common bond with all others who make Him Lord. The Scriptures do not point us to solo Christian faith, but faith lived out in community. Our life with Jesus is then worked out in relationship with His people.



The Trinity, Father Son and Spirit are the model for this community, self-giving to each other, dwelling in creative love and flow. This is the 'icon' (image) of our being together.

Knowing the Father – Identity in Him

- sons and daughters, not slaves;
- made in His image, to be worshippers of and ambassadors for Him.

The Scriptures our Treasury

The Scriptures = the unfolding story of God's love for His people, our sourcebook and authority for our practice, interpreted by the Holy Spirit.

(NB They're not a 'disposable' OT and an 'indispensable' NT, but a UNITY!)

Made for Worship, Made for Witness

The reason we are called by Jesus to be together is to worship as the priests of creation the One who made us for Himself, and to witness to the world, wherever we are, (kings – apostles) to the purpose and design He has for it, to be the vehicle of His glory, of His love, justice, peace, salvation and joy.

(Ephesians 3.10-12, 3.20-21)

Questions;

What has God challenged you about, what is He asking to change?

What He is exciting you about, what has made Your heart rise in faith?

What raises questions for you, what do you need more help with?