Lord’s Supper / Communion

• Celebration of Jesus’ death and resurrection that nourishes our souls by building up our faith in Him
  – Just for Christians: saving faith in Jesus Christ
• At Crossway Multinational Church
  – First Sunday of each month
  – Cycle through 6 parts of the Gospel

Holy, creator God
Sin separates us from God
Jesus’ death brings forgiveness
We receive forgiveness by faith
We are called to worship in action
Jesus will bring His Kingdom on earth

How do you relate to…

A pet?
People in a movie or novel?
An idea or a technique?
A blogger or Internet preacher?
An imaginary friend?

The nature of the other determines how you can relate to that other
How do you relate to... God?

What is the nature of God?  What has no beginning and no end

An impersonal force?

Our imagination?

An idea?

A genie that grants wishes?

The universe?

A judge?

“Chief operating officer”?

A (forgotten) grandpa?

How do you view God?

How do you relate to God?

The God of Love

Genesis 1:1-2

John 1:1-3
There is good reason to believe that God exists  
(one of several very strong reasons...)

- Everything that began to exist has a cause
  - Key to human functioning, learning, and research
- The universe began to exist
- Therefore: the universe has a cause
  - We call that cause “God”: an uncaused, personal Creator

Believing in the existence of God is more rational than believing that there is no God

So...what is God like? How might we relate to God?

**Genesis 1:1-2**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

*God is the creator of all things the Father and Jesus*

**John 1:1-3**

In the beginning was the Word [Jesus Christ], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

**Through him all things were made;** without him nothing was made that has been made.

Because God (the Father and Jesus) is the only Creator of the whole world...
### Isaiah 45:22-23  **Old Testament**

“Turn to me and be saved,
all you ends of the earth;
for I am God,
and there is no other.

By myself I have sworn,
my mouth has uttered in all integrity
a word that will not be revoked:
**Before me every knee will bow;**
by me every tongue will swear.

the Father and Jesus
God is the only Savior of the world
and so He is to be worshiped alone by all beings

### Philippians 2:9-11  **New Testament**

Therefore God exalted him [Jesus]
to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,**
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and **every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,**
to the glory of God the Father.

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### Matthew 28:18-20  **New Testament**

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of **all nations,** baptizing them **in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

**Trinity** (tri-unity)

God is the one name (authority, being)
over all places and over all time
in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Crossway Statement of Faith #1

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of three equally divine Persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power, God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.

The Big Idea

There is one and only one creator God who has always existed and always will exist as three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in loving fellowship together
Dear friends, let us **love one another**, for **love comes from God**. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because **God is love**. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. **This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

1 John 4:7-10

May the **grace of the Lord Jesus Christ**, and the **love of God**, and the **fellowship of the Holy Spirit** be with **you all**.

2 Corinthians 13:14

An offer to every person
- of every country
- of every race and ethnicity
- of every ability
- of every financial situation
- of every age
The Big Idea

There is one and only one creator God who has always existed and always will exist as three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in loving fellowship together.

God created us and offers salvation to us so we can join that perfect fellowship by His gift of forgiveness and love.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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The Big Idea

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Application

• The greatest commandment is **Love**
  – Love God completely
    • **Be amazed**: God invites broken people like me and you into the perfect fellowship of the Trinity!
    • Since God is love, to be known by God in Christ is to be **loved perfectly by God**
    • There is no part of us that is better when apart from God
    • We are to know God and be known by God
    be passionate for Him and experience His compassion,
    serve Him and experience His care for us
Application

• The greatest commandment is **Love**
  – Love God completely
  – Love people like God does
    • We are made in the image of God, made for loving fellowship
    • Invite other people into the loving fellowship of the family of God
    • Yet we are broken people, so our love is far from perfect
      – We point people to the love of God
      – We strive to love by the power of God’s Spirit
      – We trust the work of the Spirit who uses broken people

The Big Idea

There is one and only one creator God who has always existed and always will exist as three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in loving fellowship together

**God created us and offers salvation to us so we can join that perfect fellowship by His gift of forgiveness and love**
How do you view God?  
How do you relate to Him?

“Hallelujah!
   For our Lord God Almighty reigns.
Let us rejoice and be glad
   and give him glory!
For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
   and his bride has made herself ready.”

*Revelation 19:6-7*

**Christians:**  
*Individually and together*