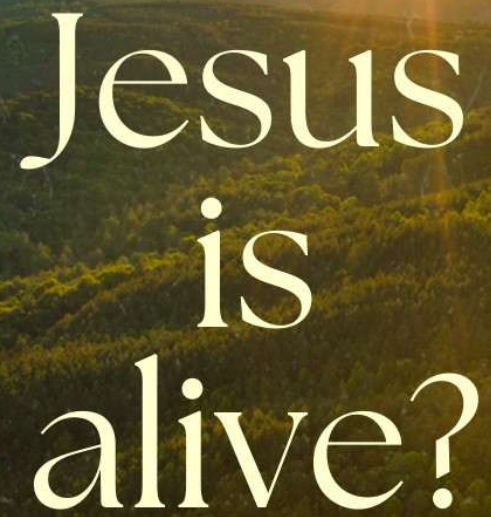


what difference
does it make that



Jesus
is
alive?



**Slides from Mike Hood's sermon at the Big Question
evening service on Sunday 16th February 2025.**

“Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

- A Living Love

A New Life

A LIVING LOVE

“Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. **And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**”

A LIVING LOVE

Jesus died to forgive us and now he's
alive to love us.

→challenging

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→ challenging

liberating

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A LIVING LOVE

Baptism expresses the faith that unites us to Jesus

“All that I am I give to you,
all that I have I share with you.”



JESUS

US

His perfection, life,
Father, Spirit and
family become ours!

Our debt and our
death become his

A LIVING LOVE

Jesus died to forgive us and now he's
alive to love us.

→ challenging

liberating

“Before I became a Christian, I found my worth and meaning in things I had to work for and be better at, I had to continually strive to be enough. But when I trusted in Jesus I knew my worth was found in Him, I didn't have to be enough, but He makes me perfect in God's eyes. Jesus offers everyone this new identity for free, by His grace, we don't have to earn it. It gives me so much peace to know that my identity is secure in Him, I don't have to strive anymore.”

“Following Jesus means having a close relationship with the most powerful and most empathetic person in the world ... It means knowing that no matter what, you are deeply loved and valuable to the one person who never changes. As a black woman, it's been hard to see myself as beautiful or valuable, because beauty standards in the world are usually focused on people with lighter skin and different features. So finding Jesus, who said that I'm deeply loved and valuable and beautiful to Him, was just very deeply healing and restorative.”

A LIVING LOVE

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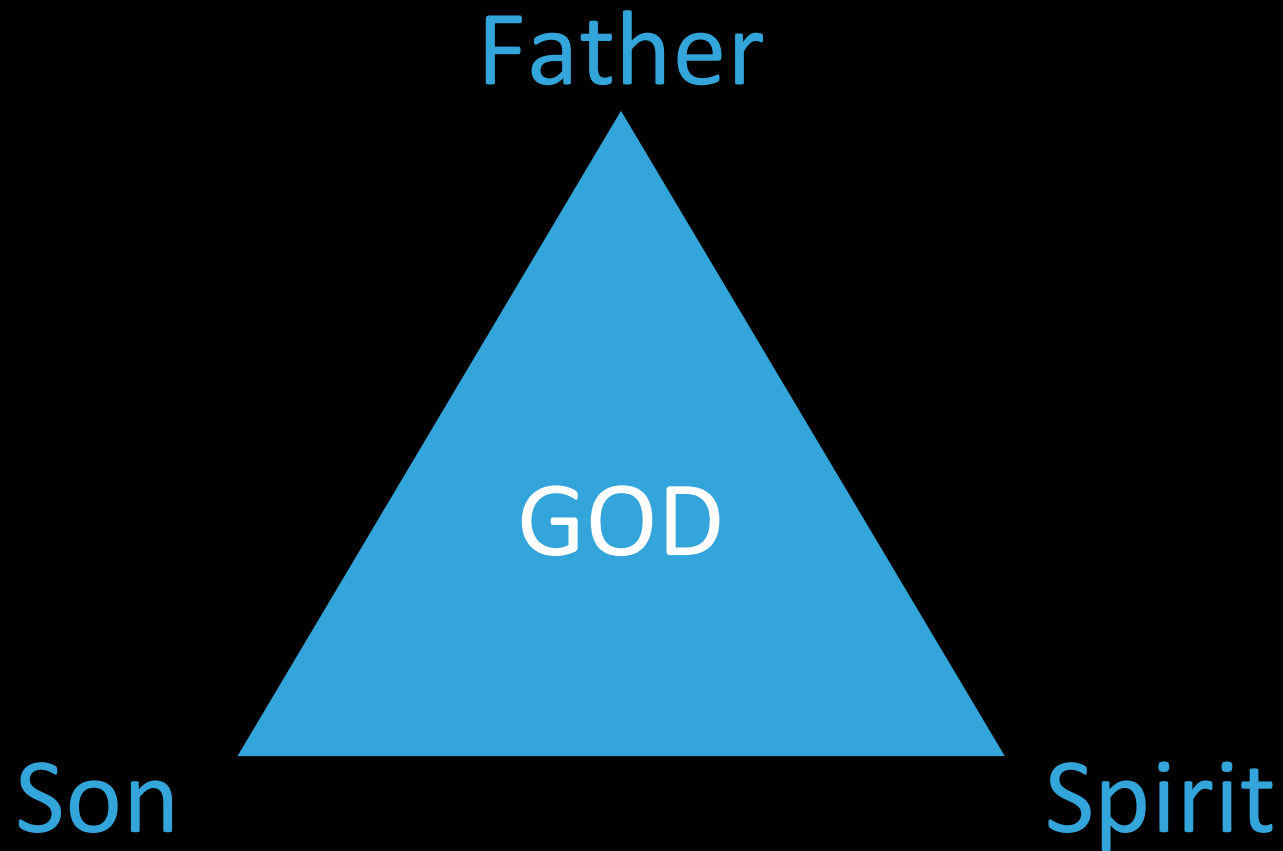
→ challenging

liberating

A NEW LIFE

“Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

The Trinity: God is one Being, in three persons.



A NEW LIFE

“Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

A NEW LIFE

Jesus shares his risen life with us,
by putting his personal Spirit in us.

→ we are not stuck as the
people we used to be
we are never alone

“I had a really rough childhood. After being with Christ all I can say is that I have hope, and courage which no doctor or medicine was able to give me before. I feel I have a father figure who is reshaping me into a better adult. Someone is there to look after and listen and guide me ... Following Jesus is like you are never alone, he never leaves me alone.”

“He gives us a home, which is church, and a family, which is our church community. Jesus answers my most pressing questions – sometimes through Sunday church services or sometimes through [the Alpha course] or sometimes through reading the Bible with a friend. He always answers your prayers and you see those evidences in your life. Ever since I’ve been with Christ there are a lot of coincidences in my life!”

A NEW LIFE

“They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

- A Living Love

A New Life



The way you pay attention changes what you are able to see. Ritualised, communal, emotional, embodied forms of practice literally make it easier for you to see what is really there.”

Elizabeth Oldfield

- A Living Love

A New Life

A dead god is easy to control
but a living God can make us
come alive.