

Questions and Answers

Trinity Series

Does it matter who we pray to in the trinity? Jesus prayed to the Father and taught his disciples 'our Father'. However he also said, for example in John 14:14 'Ask me for anything...

They are the one God. So no, it doesn't matter in one sense. But the Bible directs us to pray to the Father, in the name of the Son and by the power of the Spirit. The Lord's prayer in [Matthew 6:9](#) is the best example – Jesus begins with "Our Father in heaven" because that is the best way to understand our relationship with God – as children asking our perfect Father for help.

In John 14, Jesus says:

["14You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."](#)

He doesn't say "ask me", but rather, literally, "ask in my name"

So when we pray to God, to the Father, we ask in the name of the Son, because he is the one who has given us access to the Father. But often we don't know what to pray! So we pray in the power of the Spirit.

[Romans 8:26](#) "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans."

So Jesus instructs us to pray to our Father, in the name of the Son, and with the help or power, of the Holy Spirit.

It's not WRONG to pray to Jesus or the Spirit, because they are the same God! But praying to the Father, in the name of the Son, by the power of the Spirit, helps us to deepen our understanding of our relationship with God.

Romans 8:9-11: What's the difference between the spirit of God and spirit of Christ? Does this imply that God and Jesus indwell in us separately, are they unified by the Holy Spirit?

Galatians 4:6 - 6Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

Matthew 10:20 - 20for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Genesis 1:2 – "The Spirit of God was hovering over the waters"

It is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God in Genesis 1:2, the Spirit of the Son in Galatians 4:6, the Spirit of the Father in Matthew 10:20. No difference. They are one and the same – the Holy Spirit.

Verses – reference to both.

They're not unified by the Holy Spirit. They are one. The trinity, the godhead, God, dwells in us fully by his Spirit.

In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prayed to God the Father; God the Father raised Jesus (& Lazarus) from the dead; Jesus does not know the date of his return, only God the Father. Can you give an explanation to these apparent distinctions in regard to the Trinity and Jesus as three-in-one? And in the end Jesus gives the kingdom back to God the Father.

God became man. He cried. He got hungry. He was killed. Before he came to earth, Jesus didn't experience any of that. He gave up his glory to come to earth (Phil 2). He also took on human limits – of things like the need for food and sleep, and some limits of human knowledge.

Luke 2:52 says: "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man."

He grew in knowledge like a human. He knew people's hearts, but he didn't know the eternal timing of his return plan. That was kept from his human nature. Why? So the disciples couldn't say to him "Well, Jesus, it's easy for you to say 'don't worry' – you know how long it's going to be until heaven.' Because Jesus, as a human, did NOT know how long it would be. As a man, he also experienced TIME and the frustration of **uncertainty** as a human. As a human, he knew only what the heavenly Father revealed to him as a human. He truly shared our humanity.

How do we relate to Jesus now since he is in heaven and has sent us the Holy Spirit to be with us here. I guess with thanks and praise for what he has done for us? How else?

We still relate to Jesus as our brother, as our risen Lord, as our King and Saviour. But he is also the creator and sustainer of our world. We relate to him as God, but as God who has gone through what we experience, who understands us.

Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet he did not sin.

The Holy Spirit lives in us to keep directing our attention towards Jesus. The Holy Spirit lives in us to shine a light on the person and work of Jesus. He illuminates Jesus for us, and deepens our relationship with God through Jesus.

So how do we relate to him? **As if he is right here... because he is.** The Holy Spirit of Jesus brings us into the very presence of Him.