

**‘What was God doing before the creation of the world?’**

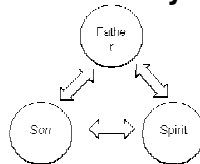
**The wrong answer to that question will come if you think about one solitary god.**



**What was God doing before creation?**

**They were enjoying one another.**

**Who are they? The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**



**Galatians 4:6.** *And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"*

**These three Persons – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit – are involved in inseparable, loving relationships with each other.**

**1 John 4:8** *“God is love.”*

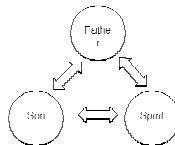
**God is Three Persons united by and in one divine nature: love.**

**The loving community of the Trinity is not just what they do – it’s who they are and who they will be for all eternity.**

**If you tap into the heart beat of reality what do you find? You find fierce, passionate, determined, life-giving love that flows between the Generous Father, His Beloved Son and the Life-Giving Spirit.**

**The life of these three Persons, the relationships which they share IS the source of all true beauty, joy, goodness, holiness and love.**

**To belong to this God, to participate in this circle of divine friendship is the goal of all existence, it is the meaning of life.**



**On the other hand: – the imaginary, solitary, self-centred god is nothing but bad news.**



**The difference between these two ideas of God comes out very clearly when we ask ourselves – how would I go about serving these gods?**

**Well if God was just one person and if he desires any kind of service, who’s going to have to give it to him? Well it has to be us. There’s no-one else to do it.**



With this god, the only sacrifice is our sacrifice,  
 the only obedience is our obedience,  
 the only prayers are our prayers.  
 This is the way of all human religion.

But the God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit has other ways of getting the job done.

**Galatians 4:4-5** *But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

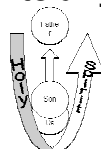
Whatever God wants from human beings, the Son of God gives. Jesus paid to His Father the debt that we owe.

He works His perfect obedience in our place and then gives us all the rights that belong to Him.

If you belong to Jesus, the Father looks on *you* and sees Jesus. He looks on you as His beloved child and says “here, have my fatherly love, have my verdict of ‘holy’, have the whole universe. It belongs to Jesus and you belong to Him.”

**Galatians 4:6.** *And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"*

The Father sends the Spirit of the Son into any who belong to the Son.



The Spirit sweeps us up into the Son’s relationship with the Father.

How is your prayer life going?’

If you belong to Jesus, you can tell me ‘My prayer life is divine.’

The Spirit prays the perfect prayer of the Son in me and through me. I’m not just invited to pray, I am already caught up in the prayer life of God.

The God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit is the living, loving, working, worshipping God who invites us into His life of other-centered love.