

The Trinity question again

...let me ask you this: Does your relationship with God depend on the doctrine we are investigating, or does it continue with or without the doctrinal conclusions? Do you believe in the Father because of what you have learned about theological ideas or do you have a relationship with Him that allows you to question and examine without fear that you will somehow lose your faith?

We may not actually come to conclusions as we investigate, but we will no longer be naive about these things. Is that OK? Can we look, think, ask — and then continue even if we don't get it all figured out? Or must we come to a “correct” understanding in order for God to still be real to us? Did Abraham believe in the Trinity?

It seems to me that the threat, if there even is one, is this: Most of us who grew up in the Christian faith have believed all our lives that Jesus is God. That idea is as solidly Christian as the idea that Jesus died on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins. When we raise questions about this, the whole emphasis of Jesus as God comes into play. We get scared that maybe if this isn't exactly the way we thought then somehow everything else is wrong too. We don't have that unshakeable relationship with the Father because Jesus has been front and center of everything. So we think that questioning the Trinity is actually questioning God. And we are afraid. Our Christian "God" is Jesus. So, asking questions about the Trinity is really like asking questions about God Himself. We forget that the Father is still the Father and He is the one who sent the Son in the first place.