Merciful God, You have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



"Theology unpacks the core themes of faith. It tells us how these were developed, illustrates how they may be explained and preached and shows us the difference they make to real life.

Above all, theology sets out the Christian understanding of how we can achieve wisdom, enjoy wellbeing and nurture a sense of wonder."

McGrath, A. (2022) What's the Point of Theology? SPCK Publishing



"Christian theology is a conversation about Scripture: about how to read and interpret it better, about how to understand the Bible as a whole and imagine a way of life that is faithful to the God whose Word it is."

Felker Jones, B. (2023) Practicing Christian Doctrine
2nd edn. Baker Academic



• Who is God?



- Who is God?
- What is God like?



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- What images come to mind when you think of God?



- Who is God?
- What is God like?
- What images come to mind when you think of God?
- Which of the following images resonates with you?

























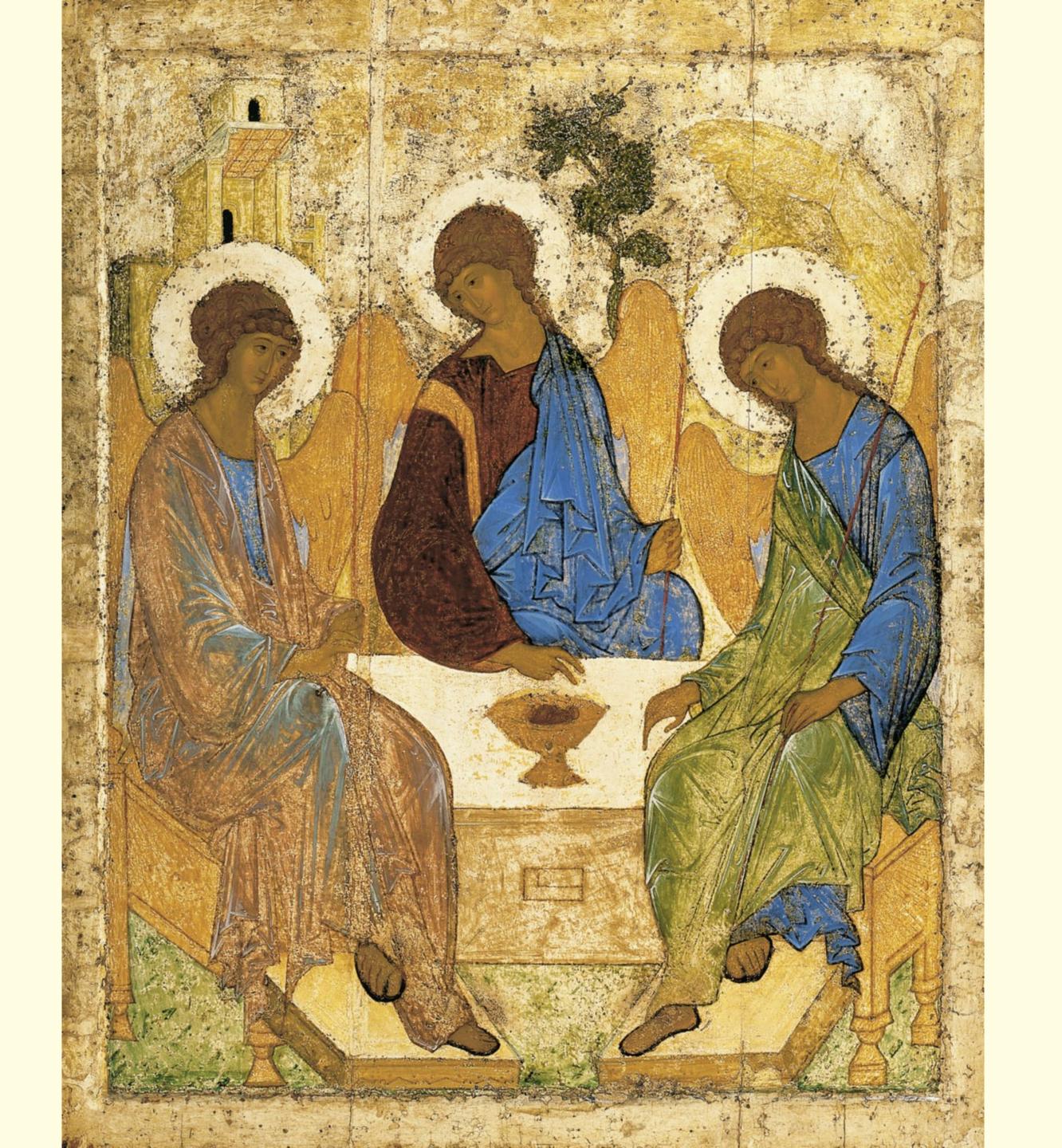






































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- Who is God?
- What is God like?
- What images come to mind when you think of God?
- Which of the following images resonates with you?
- What feelings do you experience when you think of God?
- Has your understanding of God changed over time?



• Growing up, did people around you talk about God? If so, who, when and where?



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- Do you go to church?
- Do you read books about God, or do you listen to podcasts or watch YouTube videos to do with God?



## **EXPLORING THEOLOGY - SESSION 1**



Scripture



- Scripture
- Tradition



- Scripture
- Tradition
- Reason



- Scripture
- Tradition
- Reason
- Experience



- Scripture
- Tradition
- Reason
- Experience
- Worship



• Scripture



- Scripture
- Tradition



- Scripture
- Tradition
- Reason



- Scripture
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- Scripture
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Who is God?



How do we know someone's identity?



List some of the ways you know someone's identity.



When it comes to the question 'Who is God?' what story would you tell?

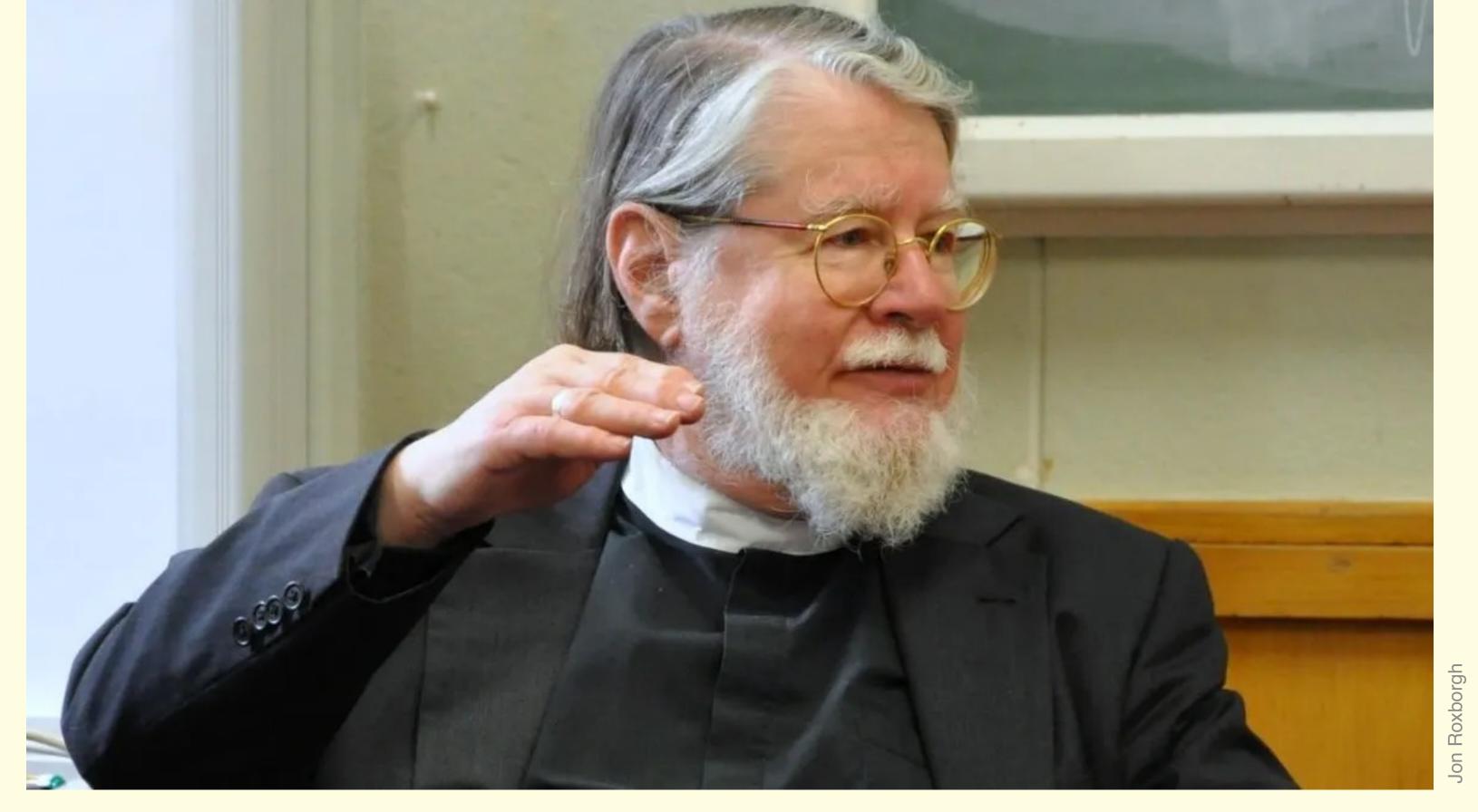


How would you summarise God's story



How would you summarise God's story in a single sentence?





Robert Jenson (1930-2017)

























• What about story?



- What about story?
- How does our story connect with God's story?



- What about story?
- How does our story connect with God's story?
- How does our identity relate to God's identity?



Who are we?



• We looked at some definitions of theology



- We looked at some definitions of theology
- We explored what came to mind when we thought about who is God



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