

# LEARNING TO LOVE: A SERMON FOR TRINITY SUNDAY 2017

(In light of a recent Ministry Consultation)

St. Paul's Cathedral Kamloops

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## NOTES ONLY

Just back from a fine conference on ministry development and training.

We face some serious challenges here in our Territory and we are not alone.

A significant amount of time was spent on adult learning theory and practice.

We looked at opportunities and challenges around technology to overcome geographical distance realities.

We each unpacked a personal learning challenge which occurred in the last twelve months. I chose "learning about first nations experience in our territory."

We reflected together on the ways we learned:

- Reading print publications
- Online input
- Conversations and discussions
- Observations
- Personal reflection and imagination and yes, prayer
- A summary word, Encounter

Ways of learning **about God** – Trinity Sunday

## CATECHISM

Catechist What do you chiefly learn in (the articles) of your Belief?

Answer **I learn to have faith in the one true God:** in God the Father, who made me and all the world; in God the Son, who redeemed me and all mankind; and in God the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies me and all the people of God.

So what's the way forward, and how do we each in our own way keep on learning, about God? How does the encounter go deeper?

- Some keep busy doing what they consider good works and essentially "don't sweat the small stuff."
- Some show up in church and find strength in shared worship.
- Some read extensively following their curiosities and confusions.
- The evangelical in me still goes first to scripture, today along Trinitarian lines

## SCRIPTURE – GENESIS 1

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And **on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.** So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

(and) EXODUS 20:8-11

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven

and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

## **The learning is of limits**

### SECOND CORINTHIANS

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and **the God of love and peace will be with you**. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

## **The learning is of love**

### GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Jesus came and said to (the eleven disciples) 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And **remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.**' 28:16-20

## **The learning is of unity** (remember John)

### THE WAY FORWARD IN OUR RESTLESS QUESTING AFTER GOD

Grant that hearing your word and responding to your Spirit  
We may share in your divine life.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ whom we call Lord.  
And the people said: AMEN.