

Why did Jesus pray to Himself? How did God and Jesus, being the same, have a relationship? How did Christ and God talk, since they had a relationship?

Jesus prayed to the Father.¹ The Father is not the Son and the Son is not the Spirit. Those who believe that God: puts on his Father hat, and then his Son hat, and then his Spirit hat are modalists (2 Pe 2:1). Christians believe in a triune God (Deut 6:4). God is one *what*, three *whose* (Ge 1:1–3, 26, Is 6:3). God's oneness is indivisible (Jn 10:30). The Father, the Son and the Spirit have always had and still today have a perfect relationship.

God wanted a family; so, he created man (Ge 1:27). Men can be made one with God (Jn 17:21) through the shed blood of Jesus Christ (Heb 9:22, 23, Eph 2:13–16).

Jesus said: God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth (Jn 4:24). Those who worship God in truth are assured by: the Spirit's witness (Ro 8:16) and leading (Ro 8:14), the ability to cry out "Abba, Father" (Ro 8:15), a changed life (1 Jn 3:9–17) and the Father's chastening (Pr 3:11, 12; Heb 12:5–11).

Communication by the five senses² is shallower than communication at the spirit level of an individual.³ Worshipers of Jesus are anointed with the Holy Spirit (2 Co 1:21, 22; 1 Jn 2:20, 27). God becomes the Father of those who are born again (Jn 3:7). The Spirit takes the things of God and makes them real to the believer (Ro 8:16; Heb 10:15). Jesus said that his sheep know his voice and that they follow him (Jn 10:4).

Believers have a common: purpose (Ps 133:1–3), belief (Ac 2:42), conviction (1 Pe 3:8), work (Neh 4:1–23), hope (Heb 11:39, 40), faith (1 Sa 20:30–42), suffering (Dan 3:16–30) and need (2 Co 8:1–15). Unbelievers and make-believers walk in an opposite direction (Am 3:3). Christians have fellowship with God (1 Jn 1:3,⁴ 1 Co 1:9,⁵ Phil 2:1⁶) and with other believers (1 Jn 1:7⁷).

Those who have received the Holy Spirit have been adopted into God's family (Ga 3:7, 26). Christians are blessed by: a new nature (2 Co 5:17) and name (Is 62:2, 12; Re 3:12), access to God (Eph 2:18), Fatherly love (1 Jn 3:1), help in prayer (Mt 6:5–15), spiritual unity (Jn 17:11, 21; Eph 2:18–22) and a glorious inheritance (Jn 14:1–3; Ro 8:17, 18).⁸

¹ The high priestly prayer (Jn 17:1–26); Christ prays for all believers (Jn 17:20–26).

² Sight, hearing, touch, taste, smell.

³ God's presence in the OT was revealed in a pillar of fire by night and in a cloud of glory by day (Ex. 13:21, 22).

⁴ The Father, the Son and Christians. Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 228). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.

⁵ Christ and Christians, *Ibid*, pg 228.

⁶ The Holy Spirit and Christians, *Ibid*, pg. 228.

⁷ Believers with one another, *Ibid*, pg. 228.

⁸ *Ibid*, pg. 20.