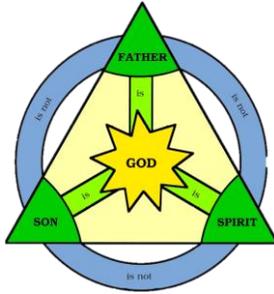


## Lord's Day 8

### How the Triune God Created Access to his Throne of Grace



#### Ron: no access

*Ron was a natural athlete: poetry in motion whether he was on skates, skis, snowboard, or swimming. He loved it! But his single greatest sport was skiing. Nothing could give him such an adrenalin surge as skiing down the steep slopes at Whistler. Most of his earnings at McDonalds went toward ski or boarding equipment and lift tickets.*

*After Christmas, Ron and his friends agreed to spend Boxing Day running down the slopes. Many others had the same idea, and consequently, the slopes were quite icy. "No fear!" Ron declared. That new board he got for Christmas was going to give him a great ride!*

*With gusto Ron pushed off with his legs, and before he knew it, he was flying. Not far ahead the challenging moguls came up, the nemesis of many weaker boarders. He braced carefully, reading the slope and the massive bumps, swaying . . . .*

*. . . . Three days later, Ron woke up. It was dark; his bedroom smelled strange. In fact, this wasn't his bed! He was perplexed. He was lying in a hospital bed. When he tried to move his legs, however, nothing happened. He tried to wiggle his toes. Nothing. He slapped his thigh. Nothing! He screamed in desperation. "Help!!!"*

*Immediately two women came running to calm him down. "Ron, Ron, you'll alright. Stay calm!" the nurses urged.*

*"Stay calm!" he blurted back, "I have no feeling in my legs and I have a massive headache!"*



*The following morning, Ron's bed was surrounded by people: his mom, dad, a doctor, a young nurse, holding his hand. The doctor's news was devastating: Ron had gone head over heels on the moguls, landed on his head and broken his back and had been unconscious for three days.*

*Over time, the doctor said, we hope to help you learn to walk again. Maybe.*

*The news was terrible. But several months after the accident, Ron's new life was even more terrible: he had to move about in a wheelchair, dependent on others to get him around. Life would never be the same. Who would ever have thought that stairs, which he had run up with ease, would be a barrier? Roadside curbs which he had bunny-hopped with his skateboard, were now a barrier. Even the entry to his own house, front and back porch, were barriers. No access, unless someone else would help him up.*

1. **Access.** Everyone wants freedom of movement, **freedom of access** without embarrassing and humbling barriers. Mankind, since Adam and Eve’s rebellion in the Garden of Eden, has been plagued with lack of access. How free and open their fellowship with God had been! Turn to Genesis 3. What does this chapter tell us about God communicating with Adam and Eve? \_\_\_\_\_

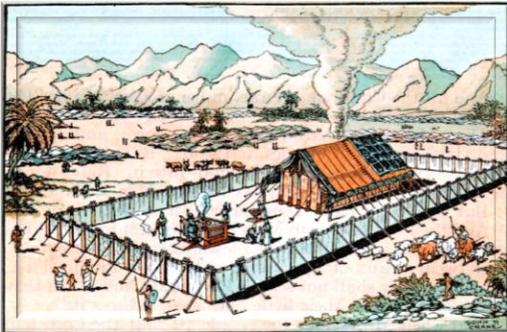
Write down what God told them if they would eat of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Discuss: In light of what we read in James 1: 17, and thinking of the wheelchair, blocked by the staircase, why was it so terrible to be shut off from God’s throne of grace?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Mankind was dead in sin. But God promised to ‘fix’ this broken relationship, and again allow access to his throne. **Atonement.** (When William Tyndale translated the Bible into English, he could not find an English word, which meant, “bringing peace between God and mankind. He made up the word “at-one”.

Atonement=at-one-ment. Reconciled. How did God’s people make “atonement” during the Old Testament times? (3 aspects).



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4. In the context of “access to God’s grace,” discuss, and in your own words, explain the role of the tabernacle and the temple during the O.T.

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\_\_\_\_\_



5. Read and discuss Mark 15: 33-39. How does Mark tell us that access to God’s throne of grace has been restored?

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\_\_\_\_\_

6. Discuss, and write: What does God’s grace mean for you, as for others, but also for you personally?

7. The work of atonement and reconciliation was “team” work: Father, \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

8. "Read" the symbols below, explain them to your partner, and write down what they mean.

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9. Scripture reveals our God as our **Triune** God. Three-in-one. Three distinct persons in One. Using the table that follows discuss characteristics of the Trinity with your partner and fill in the table. (See Q. & A. 24)

Our Triune God		
	Task	Discuss and write something descriptive about the task
God the Father	Our	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
God the Son	Our	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
God the Holy Spirit	Our	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

10. What is our "Anchor of Hope"? How does "storm" strengthen it?

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