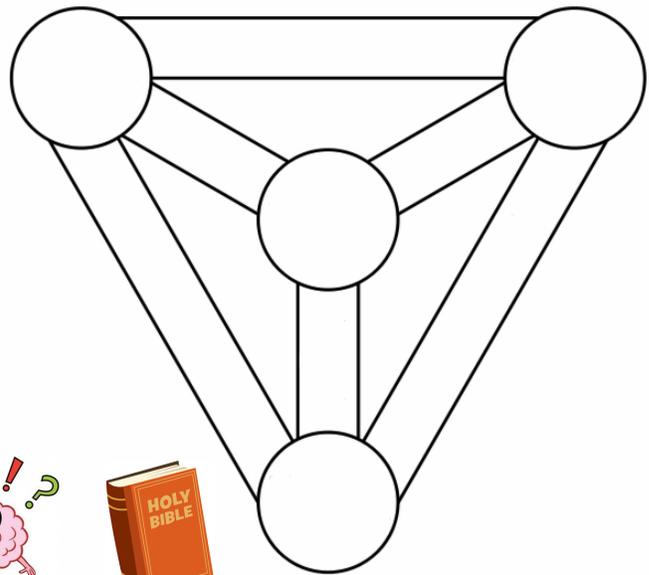


# The Apostles' Creed (in a nutshell)

- Answer the question: Who is God?
  - Once you come to appreciate *what* God has done, you come to discover *who* He is.
  - God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- The Apostles' Creed
  - Who are the Apostles? The original Twelve Disciples (minus Judas Iscariot) and Paul.
  - Named not because they wrote it but because it's a summary of their teaching.
  - Creed is a word that means "I believe."
  - We recognize three creeds
  - Broken into three "articles": Father (1<sup>st</sup>), Son (2<sup>nd</sup>), and Holy Spirit (3<sup>rd</sup>)
- The Trinity ("the Greatest Mystery of the Christian Faith")
  - Important verses: Matthew 28:19 and Deuteronomy 6:4
  - The Shield of the Trinity



- Three ways God has revealed Himself to us:
  - Creation
  - Our conscious
  - The Scriptures
- God our Father
  - Why do we call Him Father? Jesus does, we're adopted, and He provides.
  - He's the "Maker of heaven and earth"
    - Implications about God: it all belongs to Him, He's independent, He's powerful
    - Implications about creation: it's dependent, God wanted it
- Who is Jesus?
  - He was promised in Genesis 3:15 (John 1 is pretty fun, too!)
  - His name: Jesus means "Savior" and Christ means "Anointed One" or "Messiah"
  - Here's a quick way to summarize His life: He came, he died, He rose, He Ascended, He's Coming Back
  - He is 100% God, 100% Man or "True God, True Man"—we refer to this as the "Two Natures of Christ"
  - Fulfilled Old Testament roles of Prophet, Priest, and King (all who would have been thought of as "messiahs" or "anointed ones"; but Jesus is *the* Messiah.)
  - Humiliation and Exaltation
- Who is the Holy Spirit? A life giver, a gift giver, a fruit producer, a gatherer, a forgiveness and grace giver, and a resurrector.