What is theology?

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of God.

Study:

“Theology is **faith** seeking understanding.” - Daniel Migliore

Faith: strong belief in God or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rather than proof.

“A **theological** system is supposed to satisfy two basic needs: the statement of the truth of the Christian message and the interpretation of this truth for every new generation. Theology moves back and forth between two poles, *the eternal truth of its foundation and the temporal situation in which the eternal**truth must be received*. Not many theological systems have been able to balance these two demands perfectly.” Paul Tillich

What is a theologian?

What does it mean to be a Christian?

Are all Christians theologians?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Did It:

Sower

Hidden Treasure

Pearl

Growing Seed

Mustard Seed

Leaven

Eternal Truth(s):

Lost Sheep

Lost Coin

Prodigal Son

Eternal Truth(s):

Good Samaritan

Two Debtors

Unforgiving Servant

Eternal Truth(s):

Friend at Night

Unjust Judge

Pharisee & Publican

Eternal Truth(s):

Jesus was using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of his day to convey \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and lead Jewish people pass the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of their time into a more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Embedded Theology**- Embedded theology is our **first** understanding of the faith; those things that have been learned and **reinforced** by the examples of our environments.

Were you “born and raised” in the church? If so, what tradition? What different denominations have you been affiliated with? What were the sacred items or rituals of your traditions? Why were those items or rituals sacred? How does that impact how you experience God now, especially in worship?

**Deliberative Theology** - is the act of **questioning**, **rethinking**, **reimagining** our first understanding of the faith.

What experiences have you had that have shifted how you think about, experience or view God?

Are you a Christian?

Are you a theologian?

What type of theologian are you?

1. Exegetical theologian: concerned with the biblical studies and interpretation of Scripture
2. Historical theologian: concerned with Christian theology/Christian Church has developed over time
3. Systematic theologian: approaches for understanding God and one’s relation to God through Christ, salvation, the Holy Spirit, the Church, or the afterlife
4. Practical theologian: definitive arms of the Church and practice of one’s view of God’s work in the world