

How the Trinity Keeps the Christian Life on Track
by Dr. Leonard Allen, 2006 Northwest Church Planting Workshop

Trinitarian Spirituality: *Following the Risen Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to the glory and praise of God the Father*

Following the Risen Christ: a visible, concrete path of obedience

A check against:

1. triumphalism – claim that resurrection life has superceded life under the cross
2. Spiritual elitism – claim that possessing certain spiritual gifts places one on a higher spiritual plane
3. authoritarianism – controlling, manipulating and lording it over people
4. Spiritual experientialism – the running after spiritual thrills and sensations

In the power of the Holy Spirit: the source of Christlikeness and transformation

A check against:

1. moralism – belief that we can get better and better if we just try harder and harder
2. legalism – reducing relationship to rule-keeping
3. rationalism – views God more as a rational principle or idea than a person
4. Bible deism – confines relationship with God to congesting the words of the Bible

To the glory and praise of God the Father: the proper end of human life on earth

A check against:

1. idolatry – fashioning God in our own image (a religious disguise for self-centeredness)
2. magic – attempts to manipulate God through “automatic” techniques
3. domestication of faith – binding God to our own personal, economic & social agendas

