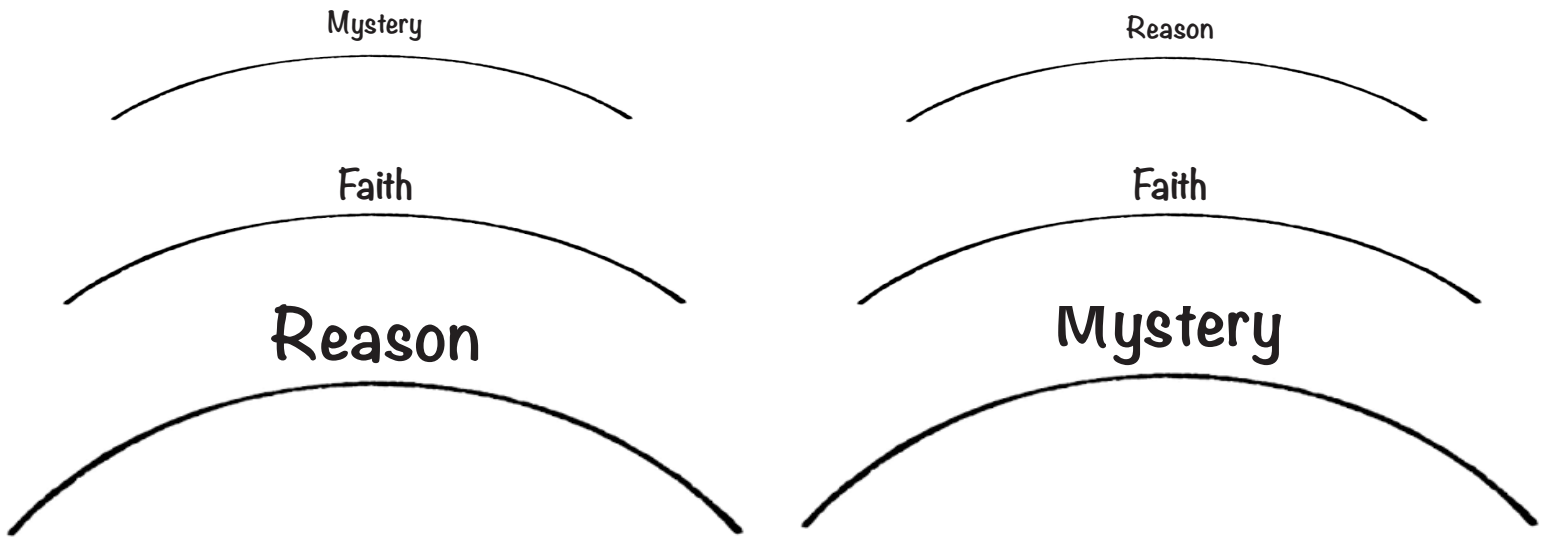


Three Horizons



Main Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:7

Shape Teaching:

1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:7. In our culture, we live by the truth of the things we can see. The Kingdom of God calls us to live life in a counter-intuitive way. The Kingdom perspective says we should walk by faith – by what we don't see.
2. Our default:
 - a. We start with the first horizon: Reason. This is what makes the most logical sense to us. We live life and make decisions based on what we think is reasonable.
 - b. Then we add the second horizon: Faith. We know that without faith it is impossible to please God, so we add faith.
 - c. Then the third horizon: Mystery. Occasionally, we will encounter God's miraculous Presence and Word but this way of thinging does not allow for much mystery or many encounters with God.
3. Our default thinking is very linear and reason focused: $1+1+1=3$
4. However, Kingdom math doesn't always add up. When we look at 2 Corinthians 5:7 the lenses we see life through change. The horizons change:
 - a. We start with the first horizon: Mystery. This is about listening to God both on your own and in community, to encounter Him (spirit to spirit relationship), and to hear what He has to say. His thoughts are not our thoughts.
 - b. Then we add the second horizon: Faith. When you lead with mystery, it **REQUIRES** faith.
 - c. Then we add the third horizon: Reason. As we walk forward having heard God and adding faith, then we begin to see how God's way makes sense.
5. Kingdom math: $1+1+1=1$ (Trinity). God does things that don't add up but if we approach life in this way we encounter and experience God.