

### Threefold Relationships

The purpose of this document is to define threefolds. Understanding comes from definitions. Definitions are like word navigation. They fix locations to the specific meaning of words using context. Like navigation, and because of word relationships, words in meaningful context are measurements. The meaning of life is beyond cause and effect. We define threefolds here because they go beyond cause and effect. Because life is not just about us, they even go beyond our salvation from death. Because they facilitate our communication with God, the threefolds in our calling (our personal faith measurement) unlock for us the meaning of life. Because we pray with that understanding, it is God's will we have a threefold understanding of our calling.

### Definitions Measure Words

In a definition there are two types of measurements. One (the first one you see) gets specific as to what the word means for understanding the meaning of that word. The second type of measurement compares and contrasts that word to other words for understanding cause and effect. These two types of measurements are twofold and threefold. In other words, twofold relationships discriminate, and threefolds integrate. They both measure and define for understanding. The meaning of any word or any measurement depends on and is derived from what we know about our measuring tool, or in this case what we know about the context of words we use to measure and define our word.

### Threefold Type Measurements Get to the Point

The first and most important type of measurement is threefold. When getting specific, we want to find the one point where that definition lies. So, like locating ourselves in the woods or navigating on the sea or finding anything, we triangulate. We triangulate because it is the most efficient way to eliminate the other points. The meaning of our location is centered in the meaning of a triangle of three other points. For example: If we try to locate ourselves in the woods using two or four other points, we end up with a line or a box of lines. The fourth line was no improvement over the third line. However, with less effort we can get right to the point: the triangle center point formed by its relationship to three other points, and what we already know about those points. Plus, the accuracy of the measurement, the accuracy of the meaning the word in the center is defined by how well we know or measure those related points (the size and shape of that triangle).

### Twofold Measurements Compare and Contrast

For a dictionary example of twofold relationships we have synonyms and antonyms. From definitions, we want to find the unique meaning of the word from all other words. With definitions, our types of measurements (our tools for understanding) are both twofold and threefold. Twofold relationships discriminate, while threefolds

integrate. In other words, twofold relationships compare and contrast, while threefold relationships specify. Together, they both measure and define for understanding.

### The Definer Chooses the Context

For the dictionary example of threefolds we have the specific definition itself. To get to that specific identification or definition, we triangulate to come to a point, and when that point is defined or measured it gets its meaning from what we know of the other three points chosen by the definer for the context.

### For Example: The Trinity

Threefolds define integration or integrity for meaning. For example: the Trinity is a threefold that puts the word “God” in context with a threefold of words: “Father, Son and Holy Spirit.” To understand God, we need to understand each word in his threefold, his Trinity. God is Love and we understand both Love and God by the Love between the Father and the Son. Like navigating in the woods, the meaning of love and God comes from our understanding of our measuring tools: father, son, and spirit. In other words, the more we understand a holy spirit of love between a father and son, the more we understand The Holy Ghost, or God’s Trinity. For example: the two things on a twofold relationship line oppose (or agree with) each other and the three things in a triangular threefold relationship get their meaning from each other. Like father, son and love; or like present, past and future; threefolds get their meaning from each other. Like the meaning of the three legs of a three legged chair, because of their relationship to each other, each leg is meaningless without the other. Like the meaning of time expressed as the threefold of present, past and future, the words: present, past and future are meaningless without each other and the word time. Time gets its meaning from the threefold concept of present, past and future. Threefolds come to a point or meaning. Is it a circular argument, or is it meaning? Twofolds do not express meaning, but they express cause and effect understanding. Because the legs oppose each other, the meaning or understanding of a four legged chair is twofold.

### Fourfold Relationships

Like the four legged chair, we can combine twofold relationships into fourfold relationships. Before that chair can support any weight, those two sets of legs must oppose each other. Like legs of a chair, opposing twofold relationships between words can be set up to represent or simulate cause and effect. Threefolds can be set up to simulate meaning, and two fold relationships can be set up to simulate cause and effect. Like a four legged chair, sets of opposing twofolds (i.e., four folds) give us rates and factors that simulate cause and effect.

### Biblical Examples of Twofolds and Threefolds

Threefolds are for understanding meaning and twofolds are for understanding cause and effect. For a Biblical Example: the Blessings and Curses of the Law are twofold or

opposites, and the meaning of life is threefold, a triangle formed by your understanding of your present character, your historical confidence, and your future motivation. In other words, (besides the Trinity) our calling is a threefold relationship, the meaning of our life.

### Classes and Subclasses – Vertical Triangulation

There is another type of triangulation used in defining or measuring words. So far we have identified a point horizontally in relation to all other points. Using that general horizontal threefold (where the meaning of the word is integrated with the meaning of two other words) that gives us the general meaning of the point. To get to the specific meaning, we again use triangulation to describe the context vertically. Vertical triangulation is simply using classes and subclasses to show where the word fits in its “word family tree”. The top of that tree would be the word in the horizontal threefold, which is also the general meaning of the point. To document the specific meaning of that point vertically, all we have to do is triangulate vertically: document that highest level general class, the immediate parent word, and the specific definition of that word. From that basic information the whole word family tree can be derived, with specific definitions for each of that tree’s words, aunts and uncles, cousins, siblings, the whole tree getting its meaning from the general horizontal threefold.

### The Geometry of Meaning

If you want a quick view of some of those threefolds at the top, they are found in [The Geometry of Meaning](#) by Arthur M. Young, 1976. In that book you will find a 12 position round “clock” of words that show both cause and effect and meaning depending on whether you connect the words in right triangles for meaning or as squares (a balanced set of opposites) for cause and effect. Is it circular, or meaning?

### Summary: Threefold Relationships

The purpose of this document is to define threefolds. Understanding comes from definitions. Definitions are like word navigation. They fix locations to the specific meaning of words using context. Like navigation, and because of word relationships, words in meaningful context are measurements. In other words, definitions measure words. In a definition there are two types of measurements. One (the first one you see) specifies what the word means for understanding the meaning. The second type of measurement compares and contrasts that word to other words for understanding cause and effect. These two types of measurements are twofold and threefold. In other words, twofold relationships discriminate, and threefolds integrate. They both measure and define for understanding. The meaning of life is beyond cause and effect. We define threefolds here because they go beyond cause and effect. Because life is not just about us, they even go beyond our salvation from death. Because they facilitate to our communication with God, the threefolds in our calling (our personal faith measurement) unlock for us the meaning of life. Because we pray with that understanding, it is God’s will we have a threefold understanding of our calling.