

Sister Bridget Mary, one day, is teaching a religion class about who God is and where God is. She asks the students – after she has been talking for a time – *‘So, where is God?’*

Several young people give different answers, but one student just keeps smiling. Finally, Sister Bridget asks, *‘Young man, what is so funny about our discussion?’*

‘Well, Sister,’ the young student responds, *‘all the answers to your question are wrong. I know because God is in my bathroom.’*

‘Oh really,’ Sister Bridget says.

‘Yup... every morning when my Dad wants to get into the bathroom he yells, “My God, are you still in there?”’

Our first reading from the **Book of Deuteronomy** captures for us – for the better part – the way in which we **understand** and **relate** with **God**. The reading speaks of the **mighty deeds** of **God** that **prove** that **YHWH** is **God**. It is – primarily – a **contractual understanding** in which **God’s goodness** to us is **dependent** upon our **keeping** the **points** or **commandments** of the **contract**. Hence, the reading encourages a **BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP**.

A **business relationship** is very **different** than a **relationship** that comes forth from **love**. The **binding** of a **business relationship** is the **successful fulfillment** of the **contract**. The **binding** of a **relationship** grounded in **love** is the **uncontrollable desire** for **union**.

We can keep the **commandments**, live a **moral life**, be a daily **Mass** goer and **not know love**. That is, we live as **isolated individuals**. This is possible because the **human tendency** or **temptation** is to live **independently** and **autonomously**. **God** is **relational** because **God** is **love**. We – in **Christian theology** – express this reality when we speak of **God** as a **Trinity of persons**.

The **relationship** that exists between **God** and **Jesus the Christ** - as happens with each **relationship** that comes forth from **love** - is a **third life** (which we call the **Holy Spirit**). This is **who God is**, and **who we are**, and **who we are becoming**.