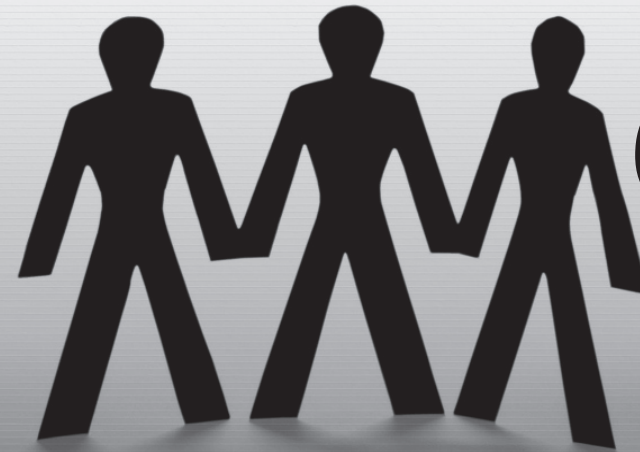


To conclude this lesson, I invite you to say the following prayer, "God, I have to admit that the doctrine of the Trinity is very confusing for me. I am not really sure that I totally understand. But I believe in your Word, so I ask that you help me to believe in the Trinity. Through the Holy Spirit, give me the knowledge and faith to hold onto this important truth. In the name of Jesus, Amen."



Three in One



3

Memorize

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one."
Deuteronomy 6:4

4

Weekly Challenge

Read the three letters of the Apostle John, and write down what you learn in your journal. Don't forget to mark the corresponding box each time you read a chapter.

Book	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
1 John	1	2	3	4	5		
2 John						1	
3 John							1

1

Connect with the Word

Carmen was trying to prepare a lesson for her Bible study group. But she found herself with a question she couldn't answer, "Why do we as Christians believe in a God in three persons?"

After a long struggle, Carmen could only bring herself to this conclusion: "I believe in only one God; I believe Jesus is God and also that the Holy Spirit is God. But... isn't that a contradiction?"

The hours flew by and night came. Carmen had spent most of the afternoon working on her lesson without much success, so she decided to leave it for another time. She still had hope that perhaps the next day, when she was a little more relaxed, she would be able to explain what the Trinity was to her. Suddenly, she heard a loud crash and the lights went out. The power transformer on the street corner had exploded; so Carmen went to the kitchen and used a match to light the candles there. As she lit the candles, she realized that although there were three candles lit, there was only one light.





So she said, "Now I am beginning to understand. Just like these candles are separate and distinct but generate one light, it is possible for the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Spirit to be different people but of only one nature."

The story that you just read is far from an exact description of our Trinitarian God, but it is great in helping to illustrate the doctrine of the Trinity. It may seem confusing to you, but it is important for you to know that the Christian faith declares that we have a God in three persons, and this is a fundamental doctrine for all Christians throughout the world.

Another thing that is important for you to know is that the word "Trinity" does not literally appear in the Bible. However, there are many passages throughout the Bible that tells us of a single God that is manifested and acts in three clearly differentiated persons.

The following activities will guide you to specific places in the Scriptures where you will be able to discover for yourself some important aspects regarding God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Make a line from the Bible verse to the attribute or description that is given to God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son.

- Deuteronomy 6:4
- Colossians 1:16 and Isaiah 42:5
- Isaiah 44:6 and John 1:1
- Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8
- Genesis 17:1 and Revelation 1:8
- Isaiah 43:3 and Acts 3:14
- Deuteronomy 32:4 and John 14:6

- Almighty
- The Way and the Truth
- Creator
- Holy
- Eternal
- One
- Unchanging

Now, read the following Bible verses that confirm the unity of purpose that exists between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In this particular case, show what each verse tells us about the Holy Spirit.

- Psalms 104:29-30 "He is the Cr__t__r"..
- Matthew 10:20 "He is the Spirit of the F____r".
- Galatians 4:6 "He lives in o__h__ts".
- John 14:15-17 "He was G____n by the F____e__".
- Joel 2:28 "He is p____d o__ over all people".
- John 16:7 "He is the _oun____r".



As we have seen in the previous Bible verses, when we talk of the unity of God, we say that He is one in essence or nature. But on the other hand, we can identify His interaction with man and creation as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we do not say that there are three gods in one person, but three persons in God.



The doctrine of the Trinity is one of the most sublime and difficult mysteries to explain. However, what we can say is that we fully enjoy the love of God the Father, the salvation that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ provides to all those who receive Him as their Savior, and the comfort, guidance and help that the Holy Spirit gives us day by day.



Hands at Work



On the following lines, write what the Trinity is to you, not only as a doctrinal statement, but what it means for your life.
