

SECTION
1.5

God Is Three in One



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: One Leader, Three Jobs

What You'll Need: Paper, pens or pencils, leader or kid volunteers

PREP: Ahead of time, ask volunteers to write on paper three different jobs or roles each one has, one role per piece of paper. For example, they might share about a job title; role as a spouse, sibling, or child; or anything else they are involved with.

(Optional: Your volunteers may wish to wear uniforms or props to display their role or job.)

STEP 1: Collect paper from the volunteers and mix them up. Have the volunteers stand in the front of the classroom. Read aloud one of the roles or titles, and encourage kids to guess which one fits that role.

STEP 2: Continue the activity as time permits or until all the roles have been guessed.

Ask the following questions:

- How many different roles do you have?
- Are you still the same person, even when you are doing these different roles?

STEP 3: Explain to kids that this activity helps us understand a truth about our great God. There are three parts to God, but they are all equally God. Share with the kids that this truth about God is hard for even adults to understand, but we know it is true because God's Word says it is true. Share these key concepts:

- Each person has several titles, or jobs. For example, you may be a son or a daughter, you may also be a brother or a sister, and you may also have a role as an instrumentalist, a soccer player, or a baseball fan. You are still one person, but you have many different roles.

- There are three persons who are all God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. All three are still one God, but they all have a different role to play.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids to a better understanding of the Trinity.

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: Three in One Items

What You'll Need: Computer and printer, (optional: apple, egg, two bowls and a knife)

PREP: Search the Internet for images of a cut apple and a cracked egg. Print out images, or be prepared to display them to the kids during the activity.

STEP 1: Display images of apple and egg, or hold up an apple and an egg. Ask: "What do these two things have in common?" Encourage kids to see that each item contains three separate parts. (Optional: Cut apart the apple and place it in a bowl. Crack the egg into another bowl.) Ask the following questions:

- What are the different parts of the apple?
The egg?
- Why is each part of the apple important? What about each part of the egg?

STEP 2: Explain to the kids that this activity helps us understand a truth about our great God. There are three parts to God, but they are all equally God. Share with the kids that this truth about God is hard for even adults to understand, but we know it is true because God's Word says it is true. Share these key concepts:

- Just like there are three parts to an apple or an egg, there are three separate "persons" who are all God.
- God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are still one God, but each has a different role.
- The Bible contains many verses that describe the work of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. All three play an important part for those who have a relationship with God.

STEP 4: Transition to the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you and the kids to a better understanding of the Trinity.

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1.5**God Is Three in One****Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)****Option 1: Three Roles, One God**

What You'll Need: Bibles, paper, tape, sticky notes

PREP: Before class, write each verse reference on a sticky note. Take three pieces of paper, and write God the Father on one, God the Son on another, and God the Holy Spirit on the last one. Tape them to different walls or flat surfaces in your space, so the kids can see them.

STEP 1: Divide the kids into groups, passing out a sticky note with a verse reference to each group.

STEP 2: Give groups five minutes to look up their verse(s) and determine if the verse describes God the Father, God the Son, or God the Holy Spirit. Have kids race to stick the note with their reference under the correct heading before the time is up.

STEP 3: After five minutes, have kids share their answers.

Colossians 1:2 (God the Father)

Romans 8:26 (God the Holy Spirit)

Romans 5:6-8 (God the Son)

Galatians 5:22 (God the Holy Spirit)

Psalm 37:23 (God the Father)

John 20:31 (God the Son)

STEP 4: Share these key concepts, as you walk around the room and stand by the different signs.

- God exists as three persons in one, called the Trinity. The three persons are God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. All three persons are fully God, yet each has its own unique role in the lives of those who have a relationship with God.
- The first person in the Trinity is God is the Father of all creation and the Father of Jesus Christ.

When we trust in Jesus as Savior, God becomes our heavenly Father. As our Father, God guides our lives (Psalm 37:23), gives us grace and peace (Colossians 1:2), and offers forgiveness through Jesus Christ (1 John 1:9).

- God the Son is the second person in the Trinity. Jesus came to earth as a man and died on the cross and rose again. God offers us salvation from sin through Jesus Christ. When you trust Jesus as your Savior, God forgives all your sin. When He looks at you, He sees Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- The third part of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, plays a special part in our lives after we trust in Jesus as Savior. The Holy Spirit is always with us. He helps us when we are weak (Romans 8:26), He convicts us of sin (John 16:8), and He helps us understand God's Word. As we learn more about how God wants us to live, the Holy Spirit helps us become more like Christ (Galatians 5:22).

STEP 5: Continue the discussion by sharing anything else from the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Three Equals One

What You'll Need: Bibles, Three Equals One Handout, pencils

PREP: Print out enough handouts for the kids in your group.

STEP 1: Explain to kids that, even though the word Trinity is not in the Bible, there are many verses that talk about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. There's something mysterious about how they work together, that God wants us to solve by putting together the clues found in Scripture.

STEP 2: Give each child a handout, and assign the following verses to kids to look up and read. Explain that these verses are like the clues that tell us more about God. Ask leaders to help kids look up the verses as needed. As they read these verses, write down their observations, just like a detective would when trying to solve a case.

The verses the kids will look up:

- 2 Corinthians 13:14
- Matthew 3:16-17
- Matthew 28:19
- John 10:30
- 1 Peter 1:2

STEP 3: Have the kids take turns sharing what they discovered with the group.

STEP 4: Share the concepts from the Main Lesson Teaching Outline in the Large Group Guide, and follow up with the Lesson Application questions and Sum It Up statements.

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Three Equals One Handout

Check the box next to the Scripture reference that has been assigned to you!

- 2 Corinthians 13:14 Matthew 3:16-17
- Matthew 28:19 John 10:30
- 1 Peter 1:2



Write down what you discover about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and how they work together as the Trinity!

FATHER	SON	HOLY SPIRIT

THE TRINITY		