

May 12, 2024

SUPPLIES Needed:

An apple, cut open to reveal the core Construction paper (various colors), scissors, markers/crayons, tape/glue The Trinity Coloring Page Construction paper (>3 colors)

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE:

5 minutes - Pick up kids/kids arrive - bathroom, wash hands, water break 20 minutes - Snack, Games, Prayer/Devotion, Quality Time, Clean-up 30-40 minutes - RBKids Lesson & Prayer 10-15 minutes - Free time, Clean-up and Dismissal

TODAY'S FOCUS:

Jesus is both God and man, part of the Trinity.

Weekly verse:

"'My thoughts are not like your thoughts. And your ways are not like my ways,' announces the Lord." Isaiah 55:8 (NIrV)

Key passage:

John 1:1-14, The Word Became Flesh & Philippians 2:5-11, Imitating Christ

ROCK BRIDGe MISSION:

We are led by the Holy Spirit to fulfill our mission is to glorify God by connecting people from all walks of life to life in Christ.

PRAyer:

Dear God, thank you for who Jesus is!! In Jesus' name, Amen

INTRODUCTION:

DO THIS AS KIDS ARRIVE: If you could witness any event from the Bible firsthand, what would it be and why?

OBJECT LESSON - SAY THIS: To prepare: An apple cut open

How many apples do you see here? There's just one apple, right? But there are three parts to the apple. The skin of the apple is apple. The core of the apple is apple. And the middle of the apple is apple. There are three parts but still just one apple.

There may be no greater mystery in the Bible than the mystery of the Trinity. How can God be three people in one - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit? And how could Jesus be both God and man?

Just as an apple is three parts in one apple, so is the Trinity. Jesus is God's son, both God and man, and He died for our sins. Let's thank God for the mystery of the trinity and ask for the faith to follow Him with all of our hearts.

SAY THIS: In solving mysteries, a key factor is establishing the whereabouts of suspects during a crime. For instance, if the main suspect was in Dalton when the crime occurred in Calhoun, they couldn't have committed it, right? Sometimes suspects have alibis - witnesses or evidence proving they were somewhere else. Once a suspect has an alibi, detectives have to eliminate them from consideration. There's no way this person could have committed the crime because they were at dinner in Dalton with three friends. Three witnesses.

Today we come to one of the greatest mysteries of the Bible. This is the mystery of the man we know as Jesus. We know Jesus was born in Bethlehem. We know he grew up in Nazareth. We know he taught sermons and performed miracles and traveled throughout Israel. We know He had many followers and had many witnesses to the things He did.

We also know the Bible makes some bold claims about Jesus. He never sinned. He died for our sins, taking our place as a sacrifice for sin. And strangest of all: He was God's Son. What? How can a man also be God? Is that even possible? The Bible says it is, and in John chapter one, it tells us that Jesus existed even before His birth on Earth!

Read: John 1:1-14

TALK ABOUT THIS: The light John describes here is Jesus. Although He has not been mentioned up until this point in the Bible, John tells us Jesus was with God from the beginning! He is part of what is known as the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

As hard as it is to believe, Jesus was there the whole time, watching history unfold. He saw the Creation! He saw the fall! He saw the struggles of the Old Testament. He knew we needed a Savior, and as Paul writes in this next scripture, He came to save us.

Read: Philippians 2:5-11

TALK ABOUT THIS: Jesus is God's Son. He is God and Man. He came to save us from our sins so we could know Him as our Savior.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

ASK THIS:

- 1. Who are the three parts of the Trinity?
- 2. Which part of the Trinity is Jesus?
- 3. Why did Jesus come to Earth?
- 4. Who is the Word that was with God?
- 5. What does John 1 tell us about Jesus?
- 6. What does Philippians 2 tell us about Jesus?

SAY THIS: The Trinity is one of the greatest mysteries in the Bible. We believe that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are not three separate beings but one God in three parts. Like an apple that has skin, pulp, and a core, they are three separate parts of one whole. Or an egg that has the shell, the yolk and the egg white (albumen).

God the Father is the first of these we meet in the Bible. God the Father made the world. He was the power behind the miracles and mysteries of the Old

Testament. He is the one who saw that man had sinned, and He made the plan to save us.

God the Son was God's plan of salvation. God the Son, Jesus, was born as an ordinary man. He learned to crawl, walk, talk, and feed Himself as a baby. He grew up and made Himself known to the world. Jesus knew that He was the only chance we had of being saved from our sins. He was the man who never sinned, and He was willing to leave heaven so that He could die for us.

God the Holy Spirit is that part of God that lives in the hearts of believers. When we say, "Jesus lives in my heart," we mean the Holy Spirit. The Spirit allows us to pray directly to God. If we are in tune with God, the Holy Spirit moves and guides us, helping us to make wise choices and to serve God faithfully.

Like many of the Bible's mysteries, this is one we won't fully understand until we stand before God in Heaven. Nevertheless, the testimonies of Jesus' followers and Christians throughout the centuries speak to us. Jesus was God. He was also man. He is part of the Trinity, and He died to save us!

One of our prayers for you is that you will graduate from RBKids knowing and believing this (repeat after me):

God knows me, Jesus loves me, the Holy Spirit leads me, I am a child of God.

ACTIVITY:

SG/ACTIVITY - DO THIS: Go around the circle and let everyone lead a round of the game "I Spy."

SAY THIS: "We are so thankful to the witnesses whose stories we get to hear in the Bible. People who saw firsthand the miracles of Jesus! When we pay attention, we can spy the evidence of God in our lives today!

Memory verse activity:

"My thoughts are not like your thoughts. And your ways are not like my ways," announces the Lord." Isaiah 55:8 (NIrV) **DO THIS:** Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to stand up and line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse. Or

Read the verse at a normal speed with the kids. Then read it super slow. Then read it super fast!

SAY THIS: We memorize Scripture because it's like storing treasure in our hearts! When we hide Scripture in our hearts, it's like having a secret weapon against tough times. Plus, it helps us grow closer to God and share His love with others! Who has a different verse memorized that you use to help you feel close to God?

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY:

DO THIS: Trinity Chain Reaction

- 1. Cut construction paper into strips, one color for each part of the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit).
- 2. On each strip, have the kids write or draw something that represents that part of the Trinity. For example, for God the Father, they could draw a picture of creation; for God the Son, they could draw a cross; for God the Holy Spirit, they could draw flames or doves.
- 3. Connect the strips together to create a chain, alternating colors to represent the three parts of the Trinity.
- 4. Once the chains are completed, discuss how each part of the Trinity is connected and how they work together as one. Color the coloring page to remember!

SAY THIS: "Check out our Trinity chains! Each strip represents a different part of the Trinity - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Just like how these strips are separate but linked together to form a chain, the Trinity is three parts united as one. God the Father created the world, Jesus saved us, and the Holy Spirit guides us. Even though they're distinct, they're all connected.