



Growing as followers of Jesus

Leaders Guide

Introduction:

The concept of the trinity is a difficult one to get your head around, how can 3 beings be one at the same time? God is God and there must be space for mystery and we will never fully understand and know. There are many examples like the egg, the apple and the pie, or that people have different roles in life like being a mother, a daughter and say a teacher, it is important to remind the children that while people are like God, God is still God and much more to know than someone can discover in a lifetime! Despite God being as huge as God is, there are some things we can be sure of, God loves us and promises to be there for us through the Holy Spirit.

Egg = Shell, White, yolk

Apple = Skin, flesh and seed

Water = Ice, fluid and steam

Ideas for families

- **There are some great resources online check out this video from Saddleback kids <https://youtu.be/OMQKy1Mx49M>**
- **Boil an egg with the kids or cut up an apple or take out some ice and melt it in the microwave and talk about how God is 3 in one.**
- **Talk about the way that you best understand how the trinity works. (It's also OK to say you don't understand!)**

Ideas for Congregations:

- **In small groups get people to discuss what is their most helpful way to understand the Trinity?**
- **E.g. Is it an apple, egg, pie, person with different roles and responsibilities?**
- **Give everyone 3 different coloured sticky notes write a word to describe God creator, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Have a big poster at the front in 3 circles overlapping, one God Creator, one Jesus and one Holy Spirit. Get everyone to put their notes in the appropriate circles and use them for the Prayers of Praise.**





Growing as followers of Jesus

Leaders Guide

Heart of the Story (Everyone Chat):

The Holy Spirit is God present with us now. It is part of God. God the creator or father, Jesus, and the Spirit are one as well but they are also separate beings. We talk about God like this as the Trinity. Are you confused yet? You should be people have been discussing this for thousands of years and still we can't agree and that is OK, because God is huge and even a lifetime of trying to understand we will not ever fully understand God, this is what we call the Mystery of God.

The important thing to remember is that all are equally important and all play a really important part in following Jesus.

Jesus shows us who God is and how God asks us to be in the world. The Holy Spirit is present with us now to help us put that into action!

For some people it is experienced in a very powerful way, for some in a quieter way. It is important to remember that the Holy Spirit is also known as the helper.

Activities

- **This would be a great week to do some plaiting or weaving. You could plat a friendship bracelet to remind the kids that the 3 parts of God are with us always.**





Growing as followers of Jesus

Who is the Holy Spirit?

Part of the Trinity

Name of the Book	Chapter	Verse
Matthew	28	19

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,



Getting Ready!

Look at you hand, notice the skin and your fingernails, think about the muscle's bones, and blood inside.

What other things have different parts to them?



DID YOU KNOW?

The trinity is what we call the special combination of God the Creator, God in Jesus, and God in the Holy Spirit. They are three separate things but all part of the one God.

The Holy Spirit is an important part of following Jesus. The Holy Spirit is like a friend or companion who helps us to follow Jesus well and to listen to God. We cannot see the Holy Spirit but can feel the Spirit's presence in different ways at different times. Sometimes we can't see the Spirit at work when it is happening, but only notice God's Spirit at work after it has happened!

Loving God,

Sometimes you are hard to understand. I am grateful for Jesus to learn from and the Holy Spirit to help us in all that we do!
AMEN.

Three folds of the cloth yet only one napkin is there,
Three joints in the finger, but still only one finger fair,
Three leaves of the shamrock, yet no more than one shamrock to wear,
Frost, snowflakes, and ice, all in water their original share
Three persons in God, to one God alone we make prayer.

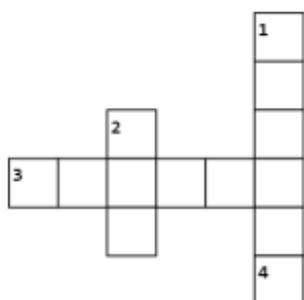
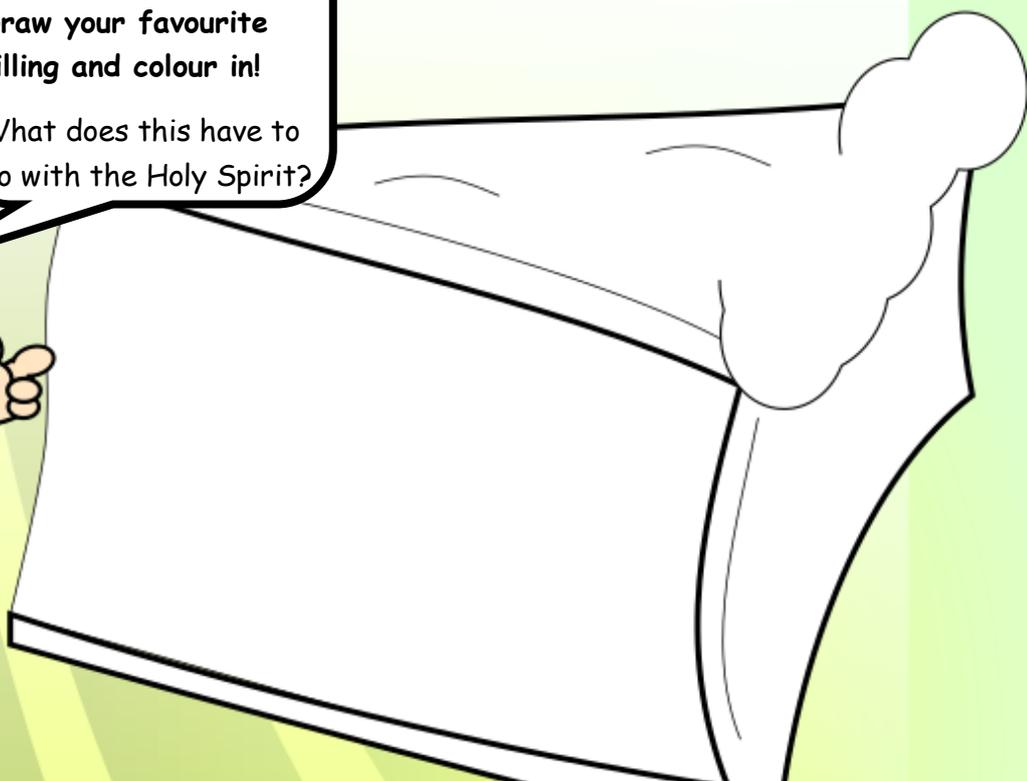




This pie has no filling inside.

Draw your favourite filling and colour in!

What does this have to do with the Holy Spirit?



Across

- 3. It has 3 leaves
- 4. The name given to the 3 parts of God

Down

- 1. The Holy _____
- 2. Three persons to one _____

TELLING OTHERS

What was your favourite way of understanding the Trinity?
Maybe you could share it with someone else.

CONNECT WITH OTHERS

Ask someone else you know about what their favourite way was to understand the Trinity. Did it help you?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

This week make time every day to give thanks to all the parts of the Trinity, Thankyou Creator God for life. Thank you, Jesus, for teaching us your way.

BLESSING

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen

