

Jesus, the Trinity, *and ME...*



Jesus, the Trinity, and ME...

Foundational Principles for Young Believers

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Kirk L. Zehnder

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How To Use This Study Guide

This self-guided study, “**Jesus, the Trinity, and Me,**” was created as a tool to help parents and kid’s ministry leaders introduce younger children to the **Biblical Teaching of the Trinity**. The understanding of who God is, is foundational to an understanding of the **Person and Work of the Holy Spirit**. This study is a preparation for the companion study, “**Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and Me.**”

Like “**Jesus, Baptism, and Me,**” this is meant to be an interactive study with your child (student). You will gain the most from it together - by allowing your child (student) to:

- **FIND** the Bible verse referenced. (You can also help them learn the Books of the Bible in the process.)
- **READ** the Bible verse out loud. (You can help them with any words they do not know, but assist them in reading the verses out loud themselves.)
- **ANSWER** the questions themselves. (You can assist them by asking key questions that will guide them in their discovery, but it is important that they discover the answers themselves.)
- **PACE** the study according to your child’s (student’s) personal level of interest and understanding. In a classroom setting this will take on a different dynamic. However, the goal is not to rush the child to complete the booklet, but to lead them to an understanding that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- **ENJOY** the study with your child (student). This discovery process is meant to be both life-changing and fun. (Use creativity in finding examples that can further illustrate the truths.)
- **CELEBRATE** the answers and discovery of your child (student). When he or she gets an answer correct – rejoice! Let your child know that both you and the Lord are proud of them!

The goal of this study is to affirm what the Scriptures proclaim about God, explore how this relates to our lives, and to prepare your child (student) for a deeper understanding of the **Person and Work of the Holy Spirit**. The follow up material to this study is “**Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and Me.**”

God Bless you as you lead your child (student) in this wonderful discovery!

Kirk L. Zehnder

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***Foundational Principles
For Young Believers***

SECTION ONE

**Have You
Ever Heard of
the TRINITY?**

Principles for Young Believers

Have You Ever Heard of the TRINITY?

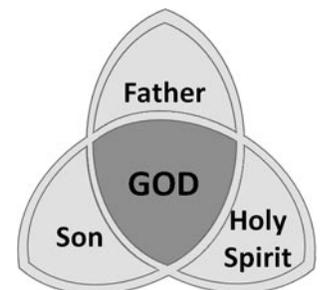
I. What does the Bible have to say about God?

A. The Bible is a wonderful book that teaches us all about God. When we read the Bible we learn that there are many different so-called “gods” that some people worship. **However, for us there is only ONE “True God”!** This One and Only “True God” created the world along with all of the stars and galaxies in the sky. This One “True God” also created both you and me! Read the following verses and write down what you discover about what the Bible says about God.

1. I Corinthians 8:5-6: Yet, for us there is _____ God.
2. Ephesians 4:4-6: There is only one Father who is _____.
3. John 1:1-4: Jesus, who is also called the Word, is _____.
4. Acts 5:3-4: When Ananias told a lie, the Bible says he lied to the Holy Spirit. Peter said he did not lie to men but to _____.

B. Do you remember when you were baptized in water after you received Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord, and finished your study in “**Jesus, Baptism, and Me?**” Perhaps you heard your pastor say, “**I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit?**” Maybe you didn’t think anything about that when you were baptized. Yet, have you ever wondered how can there be only “One God” when the Bible tells us that the Father is God, Jesus is God, and the Holy Spirit is God?

1. Read Ephesians 4:4-6 again and complete the blanks:
 - a. There is _____ Spirit
 - b. There is _____ Lord (Jesus Christ)
 - c. There is _____ Father
 - d. There is _____ God



Have You Ever Heard of the TRINITY?

I. What does the Bible have to say about God? – *Continued*

B. How can there be only “One God”? – *Continued*

2. Have you ever heard the word “**Trinity**” before? This is a word that is not found in the Bible, but it is a word that has been used for hundreds and hundreds of years to explain what we just discovered in the Bible. **Let’s take a closer look!**

a. Read Deuteronomy 6:4: “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is _____!” (Fill in the blank)

b. Also remember, in the verses we read on the previous page, **we discovered** that the **Father, Jesus,** and the **Holy Spirit** are **ALL** called _____. (Fill in the blank)

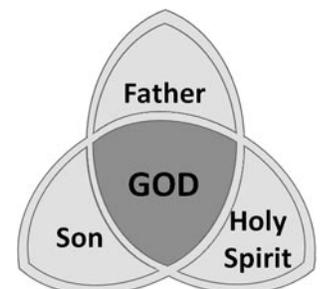
c. The word **Trinity** simply means “**three in one.**” It is a word we use to describe this wonderful discovery. The **One “True God”** we serve exists in **three distinct and different persons!**

d. The **Trinity, the One “True God”** is:

- The **Father** - our **Creator,**
- The **Son** (Jesus Christ) - our **Savior,** and
- The **Holy Spirit** - our **Guide** and constant companion.

e. It is **through the Holy Spirit** that we learn about the **Father** and **Jesus**. It is through the **Holy Spirit** that we can understand the **Bible** and the wonderful discoveries we can find each day as we read it!

3. When we read the Bible, and when we place our faith in Jesus Christ, the **Trinity** really isn’t so hard to understand. In fact, as we think more about this discovery, **we learn some very helpful things about life – and about ourselves!**

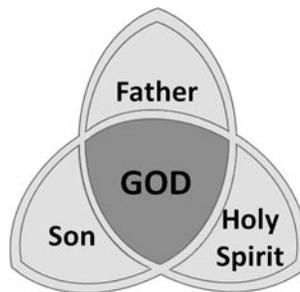


Have You Ever Heard of the TRINITY?

I. What does the Bible have to say about God? – Continued

C. Did you know that you can discover the **principle of the Trinity** in many different areas of our everyday life?

1. Have you ever looked at a **Three Leaf Clover**? A long time ago a man by the name of St. Patrick used this example to explain the **Trinity**. While there are three different leaves, there is only one clover. Others have used an **Apple** to explain this wonderful discovery. An apple has a skin, the fruit, and seeds in the middle, yet there is only one apple. Look at the pictures below.



2. But do you know what is the greatest example of this wonderful discovery? It is **YOU** and **ME!** The Bible teaches us that we were created in **God's image**. Read the verses below!
 - a. Genesis 1:26-27: "Then God said, 'Let **Us** (*the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit*) make man in **Our image**, according to **Our likeness**....' So **God** created man **in His own image**; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."
 - b. **Wow! We were created just like God!** Do you know what that means? It means that we, too, are like the clover and like the apple. **Did you know that you and I are made up of three distinct parts – we, too, are one!**

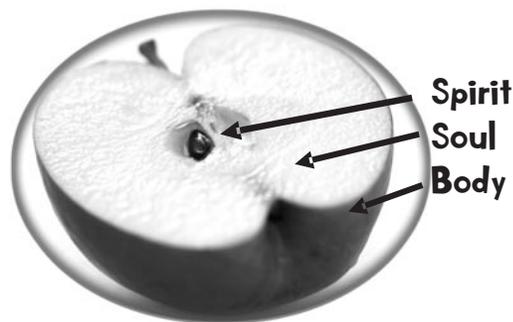
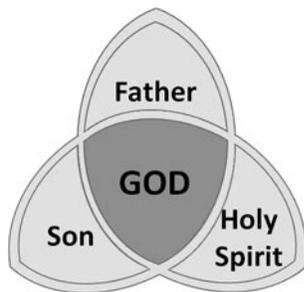
Have You Ever Heard of the TRINITY?

I. What does the Bible have to say about God? – *Continued*

D. We were created **like God - in His image!** We are not “gods,” but when we believe in Jesus Christ - **we become the Children of God!** As his children we have something that wonderfully reflects the very nature of God in our lives. **We have THREE wonderful parts that make up who we are.**

E. Read the following verses and discover what these are!
(Hint: Look at the picture of the apple below!)

1. 1 Thessalonians 5:23: We have a _____, we have a _____, and we have a _____.
2. Hebrews 4:12: “God's word is living and active. It is sharper than any two-edged sword and cuts as deep as the place where **soul** and **spirit** meet, the place where **joints and marrow** meet. God's word judges a person's thoughts and intentions” (GW).
 - a. The **spirit** is our **heart**.
 - b. The **soul** is our **mind**.
 - c. The **joints and marrow** make up our **body**.
3. Like the apple and the three leaf clover, **but most importantly - like God -** we have **three parts to our life!**
4. All three parts are very important to God, and all three parts make up the one person we call – **YOU and ME!**



You and Me!

The Trinity and ME!

II. The Trinity, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is at work in my life.

A. God the **Father**, God the **Son**, and God the **Holy Spirit** - each help us in our **total life** - ***body, soul, and spirit!***

1. **ETERNAL Life**: The **FATHER** sent **Jesus** so that we could have **eternal life** by believing in Him!

• ***READ John 3:16***

2. **ABUNDANT Life**: **JESUS** gives us **salvation** (through his death and resurrection) so that we can be forgiven, become God's children, and have an **abundant life!**

• ***READ John 1:12-13 & John 10:10***

3. **EMPOWERED Life**: The **HOLY SPIRIT** gives us **Power** so that we can obey the Father, walk and live like Jesus, and become witnesses of God's love to those who have never met Jesus as their personal Savior and Lord!

• ***READ Acts 1:8***

B. If we are going to live like **God's Children**, if we are going to daily follow and obey Jesus, and if we are going to tell others about how they can meet Jesus as their personal Savior and Lord - **then we need POWER!**

C. And to receive **God's Power** - we need the **HOLY SPIRIT!**



Empowered Life! (Spirit)

Abundant Life! (Soul)

Eternal Life! (Body)

You and Me!

SECTION TWO

The Trinity, the HOLY SPIRIT, and Me!

Principles for Young Believers

The Trinity, the HOLY SPIRIT, and Me!

I. Have You Ever Needed Some **Help?**

- A. When you study the Bible you will discover that the **Trinity** – God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – calls us to do some ***pretty amazing things!***
- B. Read the following verses and **write down one thing** from these verses that **you would like to be able to do!**
1. John 14:12-14: _____.
 2. I Peter 1:15-16: _____.
 3. Matthew 28:19-20: _____.
- C. **Now that is some pretty amazing stuff!** But wait a minute!
1. How can I have the ability to do ***what Jesus did?***
 2. How can I have the ability to live ***like Jesus lived?***
- D. If you feel the need for some **HELP** – you are not alone! Imagine how the disciples felt when Jesus was talking to them!
- E. **“BIG NEWS!”** God does have a special way He helps everyone who believes in Jesus Christ! **Do you want to know what it is?**

II. God’s Special Gift to **Help** ALL Believers!

(Read about this **“Big News”** and fill in the blanks).

- A. **BIG NEWS!** - Read John 14:15-16. Jesus said the Father would give us a **Helper**, and that the Helper He would give would be the _____ !

The Trinity, the HOLY SPIRIT, and Me!

II. God's Special Gift Of **Help!** – *Continued*

B. **BIG NEWS!** - Since the **Holy Spirit** does not have a body, and since **He is God**, He can be **everywhere** and with **everyone** at the same time!
(Read Luke 24:39; John 14:15-16.)

C. **BIG NEWS!** - When you received Jesus Christ as your personal Savior and Lord, the **Holy Spirit** came to **live IN your heart!**
(Read the following and fill in the blanks.)

1. John 14:16-17: "...He dwells with you, and will be _____ you."

2. Romans 8:9: "...the Spirit of God dwells _____ you."

3. Galatians 4:6: "...God has sent forth the Spirit of His son into your _____."

4. This is how **GOD**, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, come to live in your heart – through the **Holy Spirit!**

D. **BIG NEWS!** - *Help is on the way!*

1. When you followed Jesus Christ in **water baptism**, you made a **public promise** to everyone (**including God**) that you were going to live a **new life of obedience** as you **daily followed Jesus**.

2. The **Holy Spirit**, who now lives **IN** your heart, also wants to give you "**Special Power**" (**ability**) so that you can do what you promised - **to live and be like Jesus!**

E. **BIG NEWS!** - This gift of "**Special Power**" (**ability**) comes when the **Holy Spirit** is **allowed to live both in you and through you**. The Bible calls this the "**Baptism of the Holy Spirit!**"

F. **BIG NEWS!** - **WE CAN ALL BE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

The Holy Spirit, POWER, and Me!

I. God's Promise of "Special Power":

(Read the following verses and fill in the blanks.)

A. Acts 1:4-5, 8: God promised us that He would give us

_____ when the Holy Spirit comes _____ us.

**FUN
FACTS**

(The word power, in the original Greek language that the disciples spoke, means – “**dynamite**”! Now that is some power!)

B. Acts 2:38-39: This special power is given to **as many as the Lord God**

will _____ (that means you and me!).

C. John 7:37-39: This special power was available to everyone who would

believe, and it would flow from their _____!

**FUN
FACTS**

(This means – from your heart! Remember the Holy Spirit lives in your heart!)

II. Would You Like to Receive God's "Special Power" for Your Life?

A. Did you know that, just like you, Jesus was **baptized in water**, and He was also **baptized in the Holy Spirit** (to receive God's "Special Power" before He began His ministry).



The Holy Spirit, POWER, and Me!

II. Would You Like to Receive God's "Special Power" for Your Life? – *Continued*

B. Do you remember what the word "baptize" means?

1. It means to be dipped, immersed, fully covered, and united.
2. This is why you were **dipped under the water** when you followed Jesus in water baptism.
3. Then, just like you **rose up out of the water, now the Holy Spirit wants to flow up out of your life in power!**
4. Jesus called this wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives _____ water. (Read John 7:38 for the answer!)
5. In **water baptism** you entered **into physical water**. When you are **Baptized in the Holy Spirit** you receive the overflowing power of "**living water**" (which is the _____). (Read John 7:39 for the answer!)

C. This "Special Power" from God is **FREE** – but just like the **FREE Gift of Salvation, You Must Ask For It!**

1. Luke 11:9, 13: "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you...If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!**" (NKJV)
2. **Would you like to learn more about how to be Baptized in the Holy Spirit? Then we invite you to join us for our next discovery in the book entitled...**

☞ **Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and Me.** ☞

Jesus, the Trinity, and ME...

Foundational Principles for Young Believers

“Most of us have a fairly clear idea of the person and purpose of God, the Father. Our ideas of God the Son are also clear because in our Lord Jesus Christ we find a living, breathing, tangible earthly figure, who, though He was divine, spoke and acted in a way we can understand. We must admit that God, the Holy Spirit, is a member of the Trinity who can be the most difficult to explain.

There is a definite need for our children to be taught the truths, ministry, and personality of Jesus, the Trinity and Me... This interactive guide does just that. When children begin to know and grasp the wonderful and powerful work of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, this relation not only becomes foundational, but transformational as well.”

Rick Wulfestieg

Director of The Children’s Gospel Box, Pastor,
National Director of Foursquare Christian Education (1987-2003)

Books in the series...

