

Lesson 4

GOD, THE THREE IN ONE



I. There is only one God.

Since you have been through several years of school, you know that one of the basic ideas of teaching is to start with simple ideas. After they are learned, you move on to harder ones. Some of you have made fun of younger brothers or sisters because they were trying hard to understand something you thought was easy. You forgot that the same idea was hard for you once. God teaches us in the Bible the same way. Before he revealed that he is one God in three persons, he made sure we understood the simpler idea that he is one. When people try to guess what is behind the curtain (remember, in the Bible God pulls back the curtain—that is revelation), they come up with the idea that there are many different gods. That is a false idea and, in the Old Testament especially, God again and again teaches that he is the only god there is. People today don't often have many gods, but they do have things that are more important than God; and that makes those things gods.

1. Answer these questions from the paragraph above.

- a. A good way to teach is to first teach the _____
then the _____.

- b. Before God could teach us he is three in one, he had to teach us he is _____.
- c. When people try to guess what God is like, what idea do they often have? _____

- d. What does question #5 of the S.C. teach? _____

- e. Do people have false gods today? _____
Can you think of some? _____

2. God has a special name for himself.



Think
about it

In the Old Testament one way God revealed himself was by the different names he used for himself. For example, as the Creator or the Ruler of nations, the Bible uses just the word God. But when God comes to those he especially loves, he has a special name — Jehovah (some write it Yahweh). Just as most people know you by one name but within your family you have a special name, so Jehovah is the special name used by those who know him. (Note: In most Bibles instead of the word Jehovah appearing, it is translated as LORD in small capital letters. When it is Lord in normal print, that is another word for God which means Master.)



- a. Look up these verses and write in the name used for God.
 Genesis 1:1,3 _____
 Exodus 3:15, 16 _____
 Psalm 8:1 _____ and _____

Jeremiah 50:34 _____

Matthew 6:9 _____

II. God is a trinity.

Once God had taught us that he is one (unity), he went on in the Bible, especially in the New Testament, to teach us that within his unity he is actually three persons. To express this we use the term tri-unity or Trinity. Often you will see references to the Triune God. In each case the word used shows that there is one God (not three) in three persons. These persons of the Trinity are God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.



Think
about it

1. Look up S.C. #6. It says the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (or Holy Spirit) are the same in _____. That means they are equally God and, therefore, are equal in _____ and _____.

No person of the Trinity is more important or more wonderful than the other.

2. Because they cannot understand how God can be one and yet three, many people have said this is not true. They are usually _____ nitarians, whereas Christians are _____ nitarians.

3. No one can really understand how God can be three in one, but we believe it because that is what the Bible teaches.

a. Look up John 1:1-5.

1) What other book of the Bible starts, "In the beginning"? _____

2) Does John say the Word was created? _____

3) The Word was _____.

4) Look at John 1:14. What does it say the Word did?

_____ and _____

Who is this talking about? _____

From before creation he has always been God the Son, even though he had an earthly birth. The same is true of God the Holy Spirit.

b. Did the Holy Spirit take part in creation? (Look up Genesis 1:2) _____

c. Look up John 14:15-17. In these verses God the _____ is praying to God the _____ about the coming of God the _____.

d. Look up Matthew 28:19. When people became followers of Jesus (disciples), they were to be baptized in the name of ...

God the _____ ,
_____, and
_____.

Thus you can see that even though the word **Trinity** is not found in the Bible, it is a perfect word to use about God. He is one and yet three.

III. Prayer



Think
about it

Even though God is so high above us, he still wants us to talk to him. When we talk to God, it is called prayer. Jesus (God the Son) gave us a prayer to help us learn how to talk to God our Father. It is called the "Lord's Prayer." There are five parts to the Lord's Prayer, and each part teaches us a different thing to pray about.

1. What is prayer? _____

2. What did Jesus give us to help us learn how to pray?

3. Because of Jesus' teaching, how can we now speak to God?

"Our _____ who art _____." (God was never addressed this way in the Bible until Jesus came to show us the way to God.)

4. How many parts are there to the Lord's Prayer? _____

You can remember the Lord's Prayer by looking at your hand. The palm of the hand is the privilege we have to call God "Our Father," and the five fingers are the five different things we pray about when we talk to our Father.

Memorize the Lord's Prayer

"Our Father, who art in heaven ...

① *"hallowed be Thy Name ...*

② *"Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven ...*

③ *"Give us this day our daily bread ...*

④ *"And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors ...*

⑤ *"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil ...*

"For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the Glory, forever. Amen."

(These words were not from the prayer Jesus gave us, but Christians added them soon after Jesus lived, and now they are a part of the Lord's Prayer.)

This is what the five parts of the Lord's Prayer teach us.

① We worship and adore God, whom we can now call Father.

② We pray for God's rule in our hearts and all over the world.

③ We pray for our daily needs.

④ We ask for our sin to be forgiven and that we forgive others in the same way.

⑤ We pray for God to guide and protect us.

5. Draw lines to match the words of the Lord's Prayer with what they teach.

"Hallowed be thy Name"

Prayer for God to protect and guide

"Thy Kingdom Come"

Prayer for our needs

"Give us this day"

Worship and Adoration

"Forgive us our debts"

Prayer for God's rule

"Lead us not"

Prayer for sin to be forgiven

Date Completed _____

Parent's Initials _____