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# The Trinity

## Lesson Summary

While the word *Trinity* is not found in Scripture, the concept of the Trinity is clear in its accounts. It is an important doctrine of the Christian faith, advocating that God eternally exists as three Persons. The Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God—but there is only one God. Because of our finite minds, this concept is impossible to fully understand or explain.

In this lesson we looked at several Scripture passages that show that Jesus is God and the Holy Spirit is God. All three Persons of the Trinity are called God; all three are referred to as eternal; all three were present at creation; all three are ascribed attributes that only God has; etc.

Why is it important to believe Trinitarian doctrine and specifically that Jesus is both God and man? Our very salvation requires it. The death of a mere man (no matter how noble) could not provide the purchase price required to redeem other men from their sins against an infinite God. But because Jesus is God, is eternal, and is infinite, he alone is able to satisfy the penalty for those sins by his death.

In addition, Jesus had to be fully human in order to redeem Adam's fallen race. The substitutionary atonement required that Jesus Christ must die as a man to bear judgment for the sins of men. Only the God-man could bridge the gap and bring both God and man together. As a

man, he lived a perfect life and is qualified to be our High Priest and Savior (Hebrews 2:17, 7:24–28).

## **Read and Discuss**

1. Read the following passages and discuss how they demonstrate God's triune nature.
  - Colossians 1:16–17, 2:9
  - John 8:58
  - Acts 5:3–4
  - John 14:16–23
  - Hebrews 1
  - Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14
2. Are we able to completely understand the Trinity?
3. Are there any analogies we can give to help people understand the Trinity?
4. Why is it important to understand the triune nature of God?

5. Why did Jesus have to be both man and God?

Read the following passage and discuss the questions together.

**Ephesians 1:3-14**

6. What have we received from God the Father?

7. What have we received from God the Son?

8. What have we received from God the Spirit?

9. What is the ultimate purpose of all that God has done for us (vv. 6, 12, 14)?

## Memory Verse

Review the memory verse with your family.

**Psalm 119:89–90** Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

## Prayer

Thank God that he has revealed himself as a Trinity—three Persons in one God. Ask him to help us understand him more and to accept by faith those things that we cannot understand.

*Family Prayer Requests:*