



Need to Know: *God Is Three in One*

Bible Story: *Father, Son, and Spirit* (Genesis 1:1-2, 1:26-27; Luke 1:26-38, John 14:26)

Circle Up

1

1. WELCOME kids to our series, “Mystery Manor,” and TELL them your name. Then SAY: *In this series, we’re detectives, searching for clues that will help us solve a mystery and answer questions we have about God! First, let’s get to know each other. When it’s your turn, tell us your name and three tools you would use if you were a detective.*
2. ALLOW each child to share.
3. SHOW the **flashlight** to the group and SAY: *One tool detectives use is a flashlight to help them find clues. This detective tool reminds us that just like a flashlight can help us see clues a little better, the Holy Spirit is our helper! And the Holy Spirit is just one part of God. In fact, there are three parts to the same God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit! It may sound mysterious, but God is three in one! So say that after me:*

God Is Three in One

Read the Bible

2

1. SAY: *We can find clues to help us solve the mystery of God being three in one when we look in the Bible.*
2. GIVE each child a **Detective Notes Sheet** and PLACE the **drawing utensils** in the center of the group.
3. READ the **Bible Story Sheet** to the group, allowing them to fill in their Detective Notes as you read. Then, ASK:
 - *What are the three parts of God? (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) Yes! God is three in one! God our Father, Jesus the Son, and our helper, the Holy Spirit!*
4. SAY: *Great job! We used God’s Word to help us solve a mystery, and now we know that God is three in one!*

Let’s Practice

3

Option 1: Clue Catchers

1. SAY: *To help us understand that God is three in one, we’re going to play a game!*
2. DIVIDE the group into two teams and PLACE **Clue Cards**, envelope side up, in between the teams. Then EXPLAIN the game:
 - *Under some of these envelopes are clues for solving a mystery. Teams will take turns using the **sticky hand** to catch clues. If you catch a clue, your team will keep it. But under some of these envelopes is a magnifying glass. If you find one of those, it means you need to keep searching and your turn is over. If you get a clue that you already have, you have to put it back.*
 - *Once both teams have caught all four clues, you’ll put them together to try to solve the mystery!*
3. PASS the sticky hand between the teams and ALLOW them take turns using it to pick a Card.
4. Once both teams have caught their four clues, SAY: *Take a minute to talk about your clues with your team and decide what these four clues are trying to tell you. Here’s a hint—it’s an object.*
5. GIVE teams one minute to discuss what they think their clues mean. Then HAVE them tell the group. Afterwards, SAY: *Those are great guesses! When you put these three colors together in the shape of a triangle, you get a sweet treat—candy corn!*
6. SAY: *Candy corn is made up of three different colors or parts—yellow, white, and orange. But together they make one piece of candy! This candy corn reminds how God is three in one. God is three parts—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but He’s one God! Let’s say what we need to know together one more time:*

God Is Three in One

Option 2: Group Discussion

1. SHARE with the group about one of your favorite aspects of God's character. **MAKE SURE** what you share is appropriate for the age group.
2. GENERATE additional group discussion by asking:
 - *Why do you think it's important to know that God is three in one? And why do you think all three parts are important?*
 - *What does it mean that God is your Father?*
 - *What does it mean that Jesus is your friend?*
 - *What does it mean that the Holy Spirit is your helper?*
3. Then REVIEW the Need to Know together: *God Is Three in One*

Memorize It 4

1. SAY: *When we have questions about who God is, we can look at the Bible for answers! There's a verse in the Bible that tells us what we'll find when we search for clues about Him! Say it after me:*
"But without faith (cover eyes)
no one can please God. (shake head)
We must believe (hand over heart)
that God is real (two thumbs up)
and that He rewards everyone (hand out in front)
who searches for Him." (make binoculars with hands)
Hebrews 11:6 (make book with hands)
2. PRACTICE saying the verse with the group two times, having them repeat each line.
3. PLACE the **Memory Verse Cards** in the center of the group, in order, and HAVE the group read them out loud together. Then, HAVE the group close their eyes and REMOVE one card. HAVE the group try and guess which piece of the memory verse is missing from the center of the group.
4. CONTINUE playing as time allows, removing a different Card each round.
5. TELL kids that they have this entire series to learn the verse, and if they do, they will win a prize!

Let's Pray 5

ASK your group for any prayer requests. Then PRAY the following for your group:

- Thank God for being all that we need by being three in one
- That they would understand that God is their loving Father, that Jesus would be their best friend, and that the Holy Spirit would help them to make the right choices

Stay Together 6

KEEP kids engaged in Small Group until they are checked out by doing the following activities:

- PLAY "I Spy" by allowing one child to spy something in the room and describe it to the group. ALLOW the group five guesses to see if they can determine what it is. CONTINUE playing allowing different kids to spy an object.
- Allow children to ask questions they may have about the lesson today or any other questions they have about God.
- Allow children to finish coloring their sheets.