

WEEK 1

GOD IS ONE GOD IS THREE IN ONE PRIMARY LESSON GUIDE

THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 1 John 5:7 (NKJV)

KEY IDEAS

1. There is only one God.
2. The one, true God is three persons.
3. Each person of God is unique and different.

KEY PASSAGE

Exodus 32:1-26

KEY PRINCIPLES



EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW . . .

there is only one God and He has three forms: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL . . .

loved by the one true God.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO . . .

talk about how God is Father, Son, and Spirit.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT . . .

to know more about the nature of God.

INTRODUCTION

God alone is the Creator of the universe. He has always existed and always will exist, before all time and creation. He is the first and the last, Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End. God knows everything, sees everything, and has power over everything. Apart from him, there is no other god. Our God is one, but He has three forms. He is God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit. Each one of God's forms has a different job and is distinct, but He is still one God, perfectly unified, and His ways and thoughts are higher than ours.

OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Begin class by handing each child a copy of the apple coloring sheet provided in the teacher's bin. Explain to the class that the persons of God are similar to the parts of an apple. Each one is different and has a purpose, but they are all still part of one fruit. How is the peel like God the Father? It helps protect the apple just like God the Father protects us. How is the core like Jesus? The core is made of flesh just like Jesus was made of flesh. How are the seeds like the Holy Spirit? The seeds are like the Holy Spirit who helps us grow. We have one God but He has three forms.

STORY

Read Exodus 32:1-26.

God's people had been in slavery in Egypt for a long time until God rescued them with many miracles and brought them to the land He had promised to them long ago. God did many wonderful things to show His people how much He loved them and that He was their God in whom they could trust and that He would always take care of them. But after they had been in the promised land, God took Moses, whom He had used to lead His people to freedom, to a mountain to give Him instructions on how the people should live. This took some time and the people began to wonder what had happened to Moses when he hadn't come back down. They began to wonder where God was, too, and so they created their own god that they could worship, a golden calf. But this was not the true God who had rescued them. This was a fake god, and this made the one true God very angry. The people had taken their eyes off of Him and trusted in something they had made instead. The people had forgotten so easily what God had done for them and they sinned against Him. There are many fake gods in the world today, and we must be able to recognize our one true God.

ACTIVITY

Provide each child with three popsicle sticks. Color one red and write Holy Spirit on it. Color another one yellow and write Son on it. Color the third one blue and write Father on it. Dab a spot of glue on the corners to form a triangle. Set it aside to dry. Once it has dried, take a piece of yarn and tie it through to hang.

PRAYER

Thank God that He is the one true God and there is no other god besides Him. Ask Him to help you understand how He is three in one and believe in Him as the one true God.

SONG

Trinity Song by U-Nite

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

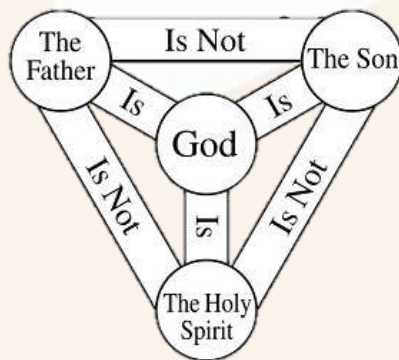
John 1:1-4, Matthew 3:16, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Mark 1:9-11, 1 Timothy 2:5

ACTIVITY

Spend time this week talking with your child about how God is three in one. Use water as an example. Demonstrate how water can be three different forms using a cup of water, ice, and steam. Water can be a liquid, a solid, or a vapor (steam). This is kind of like God except that God is all three things at one time. He has always existed as all three forms. God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit all existed together before the world was created. (Jesus existed before He came to earth and took on the form of man; we see this in John 1:1 as well as the story of Abraham where Jesus is referred to as the "angel of God").

DISCUSSION

- Who are the three persons of God?
God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), God the Holy Spirit
- How are each of the persons of God different?
God the Father rules over all things and loves sinful people enough to send His only Son, Jesus, to pay our sin debt by dying on the cross. God the Son is Jesus, the one who came to earth in the form of man, to live among us, and live a sinless life to be the perfect sacrifice for us. God the Spirit is the Holy Spirit of God who indwells all believers and helps us to live righteously for His glory.

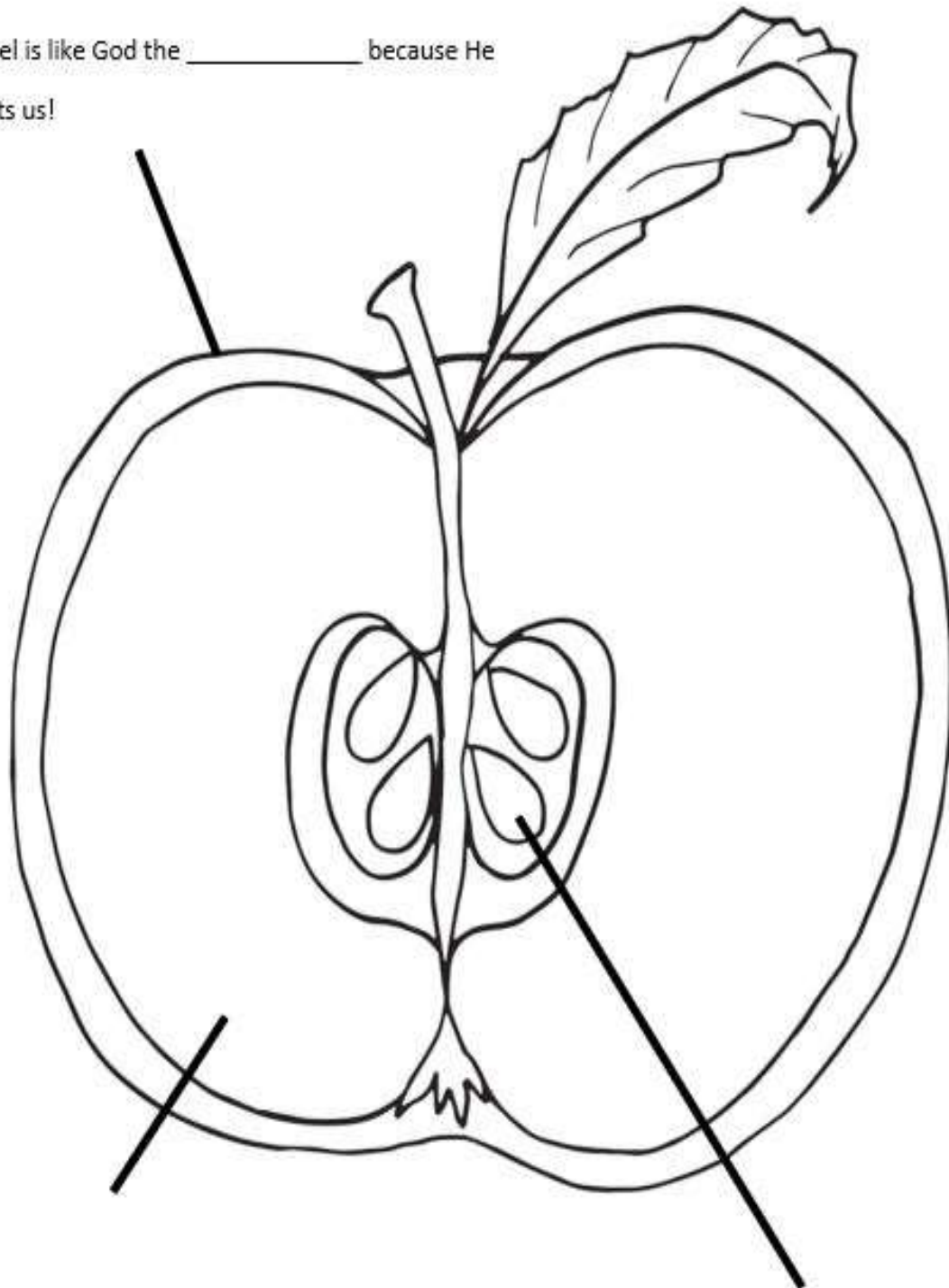


PRAYER

Thank God that He is the one true God and there is none besides Him. Ask God to help you understand how He is three in one and to trust in Him as the one and only God, the creator of the universe.

An Apple and the Trinity

The peel is like God the _____ because He protects us!



The core is like God the _____ because
He is God in the flesh!

The seeds are like God the _____
because He helps us grow!