

Lesson 4 - Trinity

Grade 7 – Chapter 4

MAIN OBJECTIVE

The Trinity is a mystery that can never be totally understood by the human mind. The Trinity consists of The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

QUICK SESSION OVERVIEW

STEP 1 - WELCOME

STEP 2 - INVITE

STEP 3 - DISCOVER

STEP 4 - LIVE

STEP 5 - CLOSING

HELPFUL HINT OF THE DAY

Share your story.

As a catechist, you have a unique opportunity to shape future generations through your time with students. While it is important to present good content in your classroom, it is critical that you witness to your live for the faith. This is a way for the students to relate to you and to begin to gain your trust.

12 WAYS TO BE AN ENGAGING CATECHIST

7. Tell your candidates what's up – guide them through your time together
8. Don't be afraid of silence
9. Redirect behavior
10. Smile
11. Tell your story
12. Be YOU
1. Welcome students and thank them for coming
2. Learn students' names
3. Start on time, end on time
4. Repeat yourself on important points
5. Look up! Conscious effort for eye contact with the room
6. Be prepared

STEP 1 - WELCOME

TIP

Community Activity

STEP 2 - INVITE

TIP

- **Recite the prayer and read the Scripture passage.**
- **Ask: How much can we ever really *understand* God?**

STEP 3 - DISCOVER

TIP

- **Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EoFNxugeEOo>**
 - o **Allow time for questions.**
 - **If you do not know the answer to a question, please refer to the Catechism, or Lauren or Brenda for another resource.**
- **Read and discuss “Three Divine Persons in One God” pg. 96**
- **Read and discuss “God’s Plan for us”**

STEP 4 – LIVE

TIP

Ask: How does “The Trinity” apply to your life and how you view God in your life?

- **Guide them a little... this shows us exactly how complex God is. So much so that we can't even understand His being. He is a limitless God who is Love. How is that relatable to them?**

STEP 5 – CLOSING

TIP

Pray the Memorare together:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen.

Extra resource on common Trinity Questions

25. How many Persons are there in God?

In God there are three divine Persons--the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

(a) Unaided by divine revelation, the human mind could not know the existence of the Blessed Trinity because it is a supernatural mystery.³ Even after God has revealed the existence of the Blessed Trinity, we cannot understand it fully. When we believe, on the word of God, that there are three Persons in one God, we do not believe that three Persons are one Person, or that three gods are one God; this would be a contradiction.

26. Is the Father God?

The Father is God and the first Person of the Blessed Trinity.

(a) The first Person of the Blessed Trinity is called the Father because from all eternity He begets the second Person, His only-begotten Son.

(b) God the Father is called the first Person not because He is greater or older than the other two Persons, but because He is unbegotten.

27. Is the Son God?

The Son is God and the second Person of the Blessed Trinity.

(a) The second Person of the Blessed Trinity is called the Son because from all eternity, He is the only begotten of the Father. Proceeding from the Father, the Son is called the Divine Word or the Wisdom of the Father.

28. Is the Holy Spirit God?

The Holy Spirit is God and the third Person of the Blessed Trinity.

(a) The third Person of the Blessed Trinity is called the Holy Spirit because from all eternity He is breathed forth, as it were, by the Father and the Son. Proceeding from the Father and the Son, He is called the Gift or Love of the Father and the Son.

29. What do we mean by the Blessed Trinity?

By the Blessed Trinity we mean one and the same God in three divine Persons.

30. Are the three divine Persons really distinct from one another?

The three divine Persons are really distinct from one another.

(a) Although the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are distinct Persons, they are not distinct in nature. The nature of the Father is entirely the nature of the Son; and the nature of the Father and the Son is entirely the nature of the Holy Spirit.

31. Are the three divine Persons perfectly equal to one another?

The three divine Persons are perfectly equal to one another, because all are one and the same God.

(a) No one of the three Persons precedes the others in time or in power, but all are equally eternal and all-powerful because they have the same divine nature.

32. How are the three divine Persons, though really distinct from one another, one and the same God?

The three divine Persons, though really distinct from one another, are one and the same God because all have one and the same divine nature.

(a) Because the three divine Persons have one and the same divine nature, they have the same perfections and the same external works are produced by them. But in order that we may better know the three divine Persons, certain perfections and works are attributed to each Person; for example, omnipotence and the works of omnipotence, such as creation, to the Father; wisdom and the works of wisdom, such as enlightenment, to the Son, love and the works of love, such as sanctification, to the Holy Spirit.

33. Can we fully understand how the three divine Persons, though really distinct from one another, are one and the same God?

We cannot fully understand how the three divine Persons, though really distinct from one another, are one and the same God because this is a supernatural mystery.

34. What is a supernatural mystery?

A supernatural mystery is a truth which we cannot fully understand, but which we firmly believe because we have God's word for it.

(a) In addition to those truths which can be attained by man's natural reason, there are certain mysteries hidden in God which we cannot know without divine revelation, but which we must believe because God has revealed them. Divine mysteries by their very nature are far above the power of human understanding and even when revealed and accepted on faith they remain obscure during our life on earth. To understand these things fully, a finite mind would have to comprehend the infinite.

(b) In heaven there will be a fuller understanding of these mysteries, but never an infinite comprehension of them.

It is reasonable to believe supernatural mysteries revealed by God because He can neither deceive nor be deceived. In our everyday life we believe many things on the word of human beings even though at times they deceive or are deceived.