

STUDY 11

3 IN 1?

II. THE PERSON YOU'VE MET - D. The Triune God

In the last few studies we have looked at God as our Father, at Jesus Christ and at the Holy Spirit. It might be easy for you to see these as three separate persons because of their three different personalities and/or functions. However, as we study the Bible, God's holy Word, we begin to see that despite their differing personalities and functions, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are three parts of one unit. This one unit is called the Trinity. Although there is only one unit called "God," to know Him we must know all three parts.

Does that seem hard to understand? Christ Himself said it would be. Probably one of the most common illustrations of this is an egg. It consists of a yolk, the white, and the shell. If one of those three parts is missing, it is not completely an egg, but when they are all together, it can be called an egg.

The Old Testament focuses mainly on God the Father, but there are instances when we are given glimpses (especially in prophecy) of the other two parts of the Godhead. The focal point of the New Testament is Christ the Son who came to reveal the Father and prepare us for a relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Here are some questions you might have about the Trinity, and places in the Bible where you can find answers:

1. "Where in Scripture does it hint both that God is a unity and that He has more than one part to Him?"

Genesis 1:26 is one example. Read it.

What in this verse tells you there is more than one aspect of God?

2. "Where can I see all three in 'action'?"
Read Matthew 3:16, 17 and Luke 3:21, 22

- a. What is the occasion?
- b. What does each member of the Godhead do?

3. "How are the three parts of the Godhead interrelated?"

Read John 14:10, 16, 17, 26.

- a. What part does the Father play in Christ's life?
- b. How is the Holy Spirit related to the Father and Son?

Read Romans 8:9-11

- a. List the different names used to refer to the part of God who lives within Christians.
- b. What does this tell you about the relationship between the Holy Spirit, the Son and the Father?

Acts 10:36-38 also clarifies how the three parts of God work together. Study that passage and draw your own conclusions.

4. Each Person of the Trinity has specific functions or parts in your life. According to these verses, what does each Person of the Trinity do in your life?

	2 Corinthians 1:21, 22	2 Corinthians 3:14	Titus 3:4-6	1 John 5:7, 11, 12
Father				
Son				
Holy Spirit				

5. Take a moment to thank God (the Father, Son and Holy Spirit) for all parts of Himself. Thank Him that although this is a difficult concept to grasp, you now have a better understanding of Him as a whole. Ask Him to enable you to love Him better.