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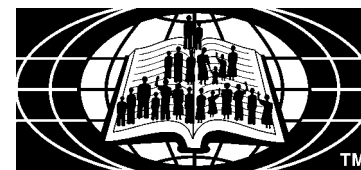
# **The Holy Trinity**



**Pastoral Leader Training Booklet**

# **11**

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## THE WORK OF THE TRINITY

The Bible shows clearly that God is one. “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one” (Deuteronomy 6:4); see also Isaiah 44:8. The Bible also teaches that God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The three Persons of the Holy Trinity cannot be separated: all they do, they do together; they are only one God.

**The word “Trinity”  
means that God  
is one, in three  
“Persons.”**

## PRACTICAL WORK

- Teach the great works of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, explaining that the three inseparable Persons of the Trinity always work together. Encourage the congregation to praise the Triune God.

Notes:

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## THE TRINITY AND THE CHURCH

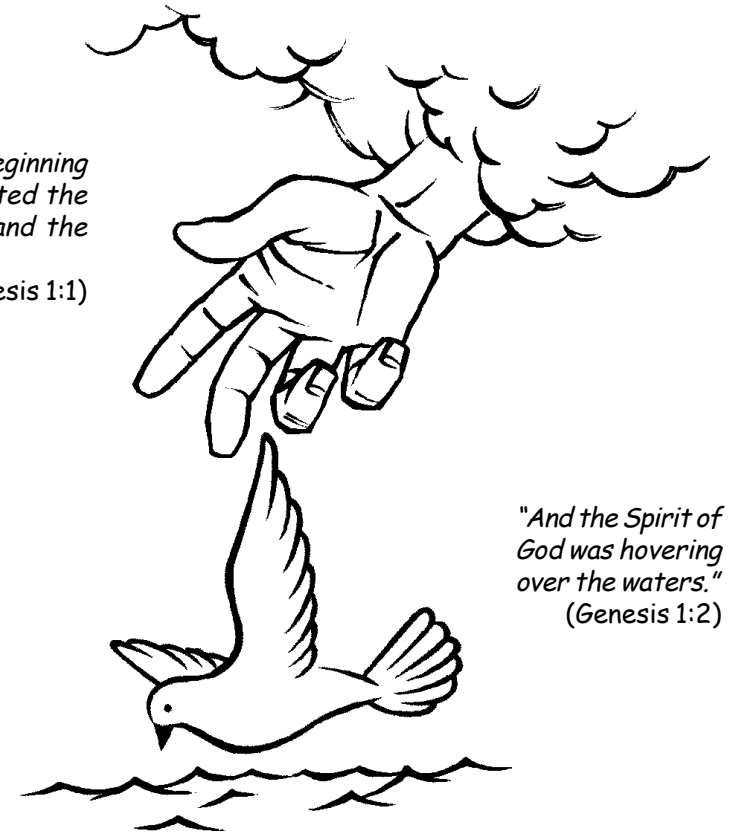
The Church is the body of Christ. He directs it. The Church is not a building. It is the body of people who are united to the Lord Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit.

**JESUS IS  
THE HEAD OF HIS  
BODY, THE CHURCH;  
WE OFFER PRAISE  
TO GOD THE FATHER,  
THROUGH CHRIST.**

## THE TRINITY AND CREATION

The Bible shows that each Person of the Trinity was active in the creation of the universe: the Father (1 Corinthians 8:6), the Son (John 1:3), and the Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:2). Being God, the Son has always existed, even before being born as man:

*"In the beginning  
God created the  
heavens and the  
earth."  
(Genesis 1:1)*



*"And the Spirit of  
God was hovering  
over the waters."  
(Genesis 1:2)*

*For by Him (Christ) all things were created. (Colossians 1:16)*

# THE TRINITY AND CHRIST'S INCARNATION

The Father sent the Son into the world. He was conceived in Mary through the Holy Spirit.



*"The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God."*

(Luke 1:35)



There is only one God. For this reason, everything He does is related to the three inseparable Persons of the Trinity.

## Our sanctification has various aspects:

- All of us who believe in Christ are cleansed before God by the blood of Jesus. The Holy Spirit cleanses us the moment we believe. (Acts 2:38, 1 Corinthians 1:2, 1 Peter 1:2)
- Next, we go on growing more and more in Christ. We look forward to that day when we will be perfected in glory so that we can see Him face to face. (Ephesians 4:13-15; Philippians 1:6, and 3:12-16, 1 John 3:2-3)

Satan can imitate the new birth in an insincere person. He gives a carnal desire not to believe in Christ's work through faith, but rather to ask for miraculous signs before believing. (Matthew 12:38-42) There is no fruit of sanctification. The excitement of this superficial religion soon goes. Its "faith" is just temporary.

- The Holy Spirit is the Most Holy God. Because of this, the genuine new birth through the Holy Spirit results finally in our true sanctification.

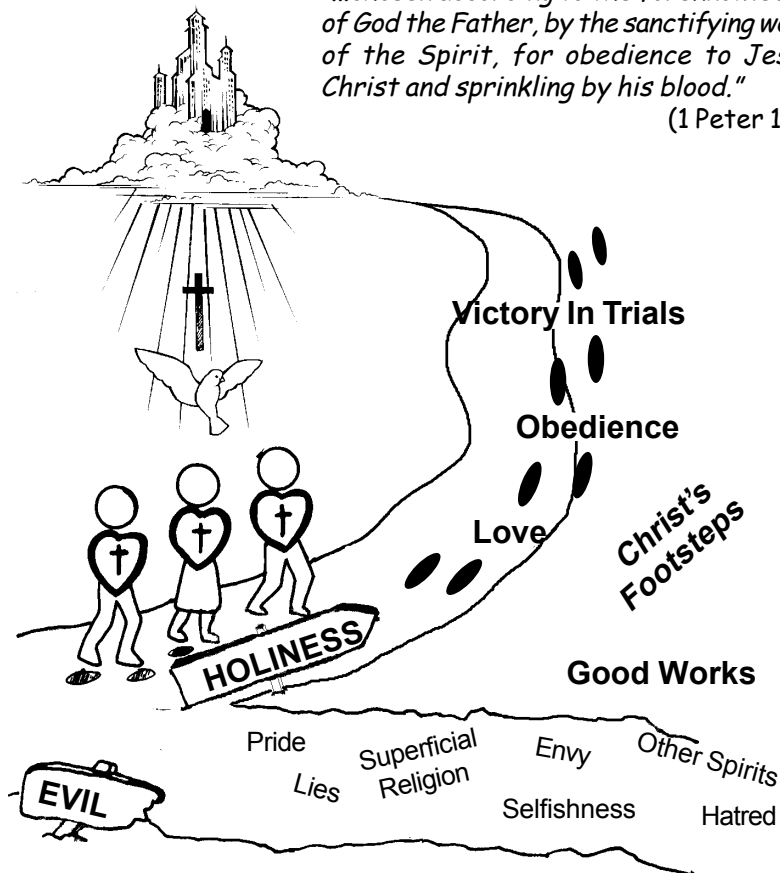
Real Conversion is permanent, not a fleeting emotion.  
(2 Corinthians 3:18, Romans 8:26-29)

# THE TRINITY AND OUR SANCTIFICATION

God the Father commands that we be holy; we are saved through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and sanctified through the Holy Spirit. He now dwells in us and brings a change in our innermost will. God sees us as perfectly justified and holy when we receive Christ, but we still have to work out a lot of old bad habits and overcome the works of the flesh.

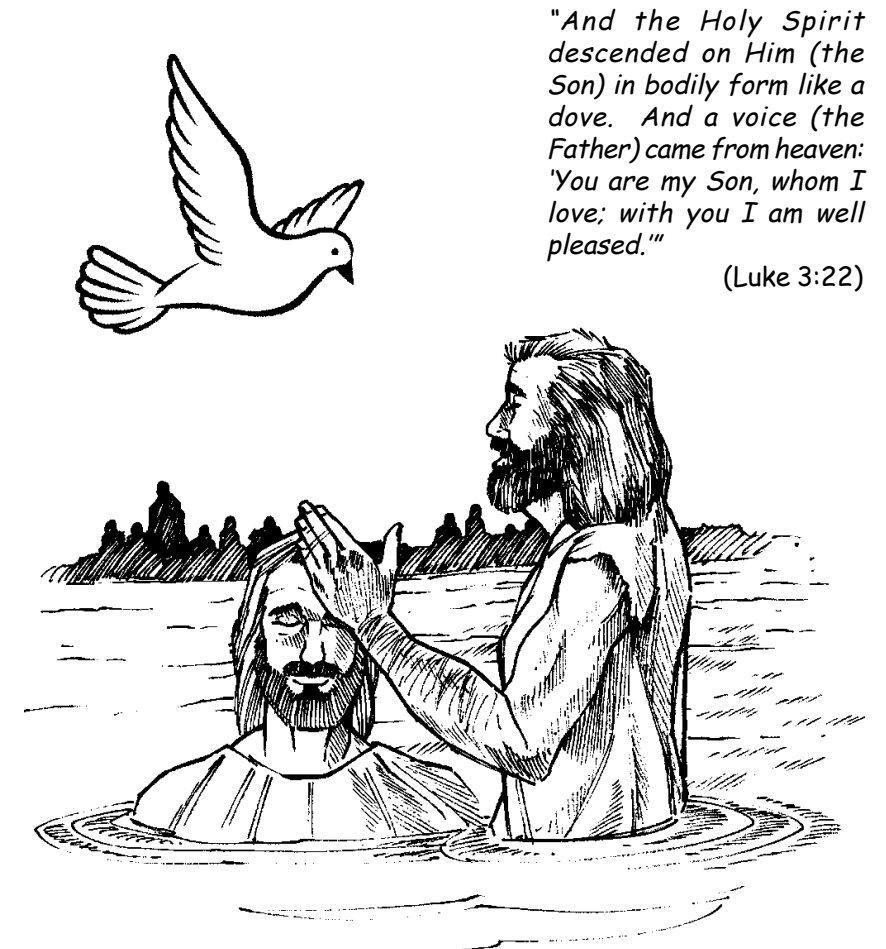
*"Be holy, because I am holy."  
(1 Peter 1:16)*

*"...chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood."  
(1 Peter 1:2)*



# THE TRINITY AND THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

The three inseparable Persons of the Trinity were manifested in the baptism of Jesus:



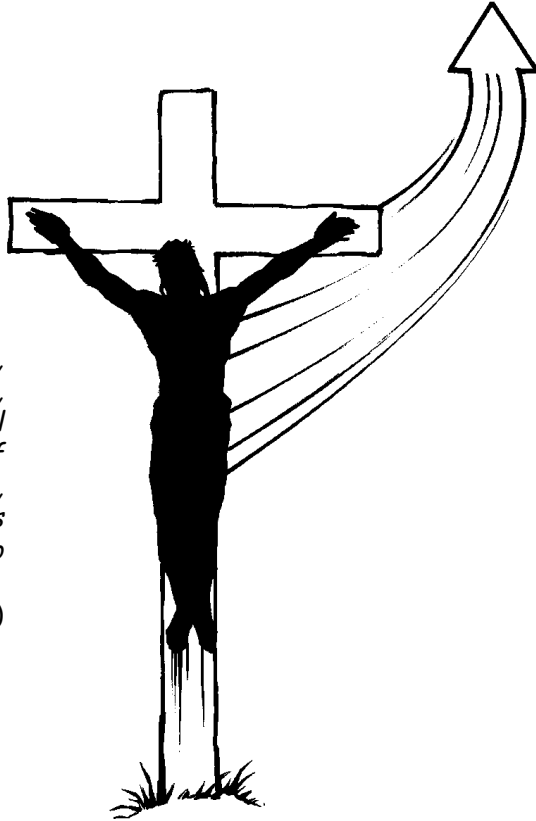
*"And the Holy Spirit descended on Him (the Son) in bodily form like a dove. And a voice (the Father) came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'"*

*(Luke 3:22)*

God the Spirit appeared in the form of a dove, so that His presence would be perceived.

# THE TRINITY, THE ONE SACRIFICE, AND THE LIFE-GIVING RESURRECTION

God the Son died for our sins, offering Himself to the Father through the Holy Spirit:



*"How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death."*

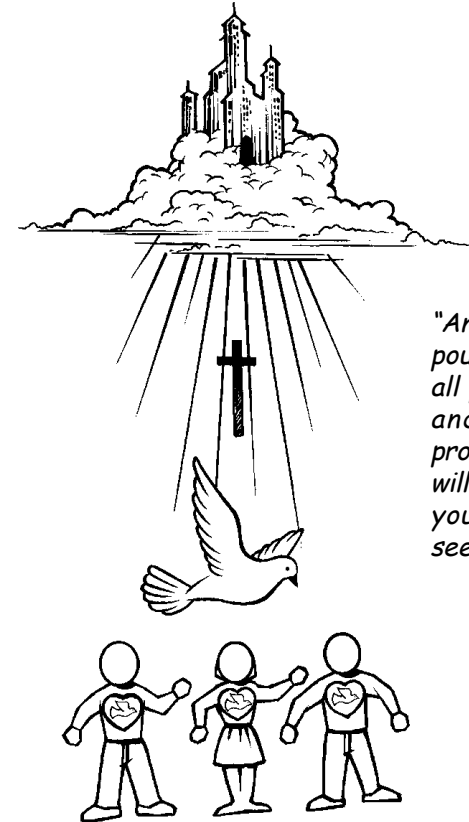
(Hebrews 9:14)

*"...who through the Spirit of Holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ."*

(Romans 1:4)

# THE TRINITY AND THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

God pours out the Holy Spirit on all those who believe in Jesus Christ. 'Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out: Abba! Father!' (Galatians 4:6)



*"And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions."*

(Joel 2:28)

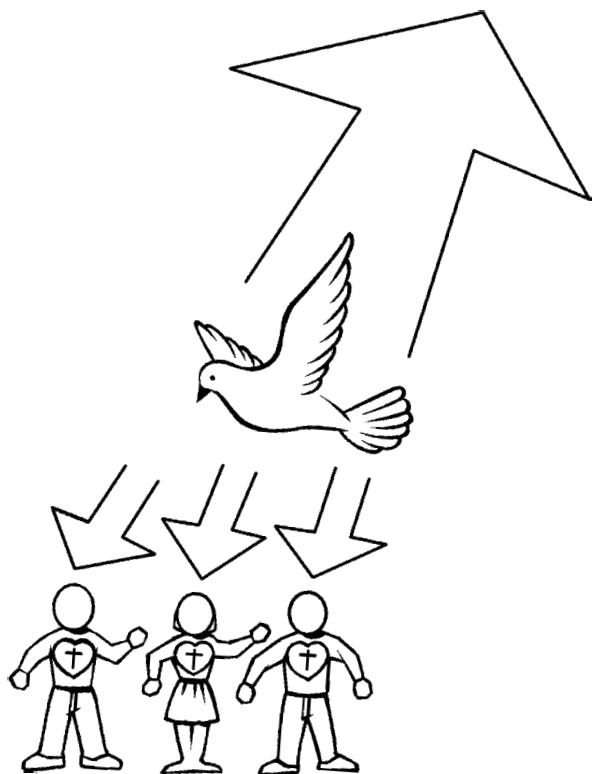
*"Exalted at the right hand of God, (Jesus) has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear."*

(Acts 2:33)

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."*

(1 Peter 1:3)

### THE NEW, ETERNAL CREATION

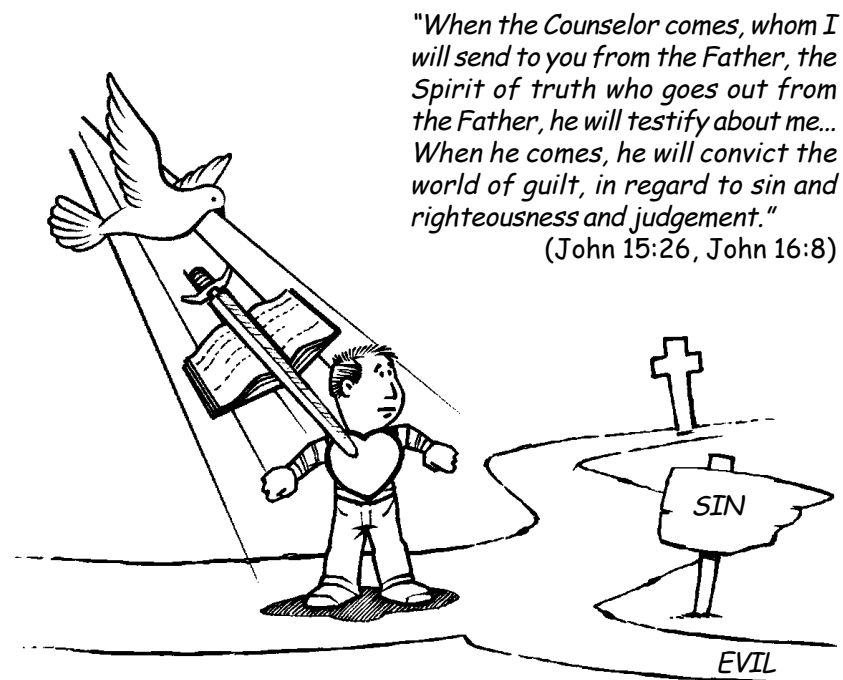


*"He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit."*

(Titus 3:5)

## THE TRINITY AND THE CONVICTION OF SIN

God the Spirit convinces men that they are sinners. When they believe in Jesus Christ and are justified in Him, God the Father receives them as sons.

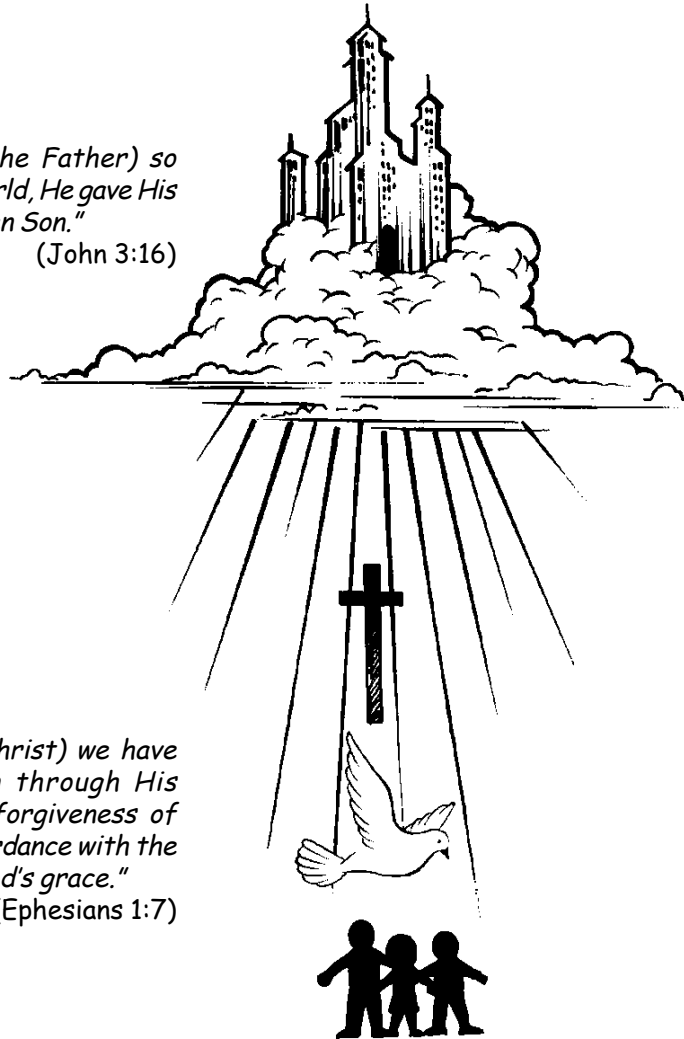


*The word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit... it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

(Hebrews 4:12)

## THE TRINITY AND OUR FORGIVENESS THROUGH THE DEATH OF CHRIST

*"For God (the Father) so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son."  
(John 3:16)*



*"In whom (Christ) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace."  
(Ephesians 1:7)*

*"But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."  
(1 Corinthians 6:11)*

## THE TRINITY AND OUR SPIRITUAL REBIRTH

We are saved from the moment we are born again. This new birth is through the work of the Trinity. We are:

- born of God the Father. (James 1:17-18, John 1:12-13)
- born anew through God the Son. (1 Peter 1:3, Titus 3:5-6)
- reborn by the Holy Spirit. (John 3:6-7, Titus 3:5-6)

Our salvation is the work of ONE GOD:

- God the Father commanded our salvation.  
(Ephesians 1:3-6)
- God the Son effected this in His death and resurrection.  
(Romans 4:25)
- God the Spirit applies the work of Christ to us.  
(1 Corinthians 6:11)