

ORDINARY TIME TRINITY SUNDAY

Thought for the day

The mysterious and holy nature of the one true God is beyond our understanding, but it is both communal harmony and individual personality, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Readings

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17

Aim

To be introduced to God as Father, Son and Spirit.

Starter

Bring in a lot of tight rolls of newspaper, thick enough to be firm. Work together to make them into an Eiffel Tower, using sticky tape to join the rolls together. They should find that the strongest shape to use is a triangle. If they aren't getting beyond the bendy stage, you can subtly suggest the use of triangles!

Teaching

Draw their attention to the way triangles hold firm, and look at one to see why this is. All the way round, two hold the third in place.

Explain that today the whole Church is taking a look at what God is really like, and worshipping him. What do we know about God already? For a start, how many Gods are there? They may well mention lots of gods they have heard of. Agree that people through history have invented lots of gods, and anything we worship – including football stars and fashion – can be made into a kind of god by us. But we know that all these are pretend gods, which we make or think of ourselves.

There is only one true God and nobody invented God – God was already there; he always has been and always will be. That makes the one true God the only one worthy of our worship. And that's why we and our families make the effort to get up on a Sunday; we know that God is real and we come to worship him.

What is the only true God like? God is Father, the Creator (write 'Father' across the triangle), Son, our Saviour (write 'Jesus' in the same place), and Holy Spirit (write 'Holy Spirit' in the same place). We

can't see the words clearly now because they are all one, and that's what God is like. If we also write the character of God round the edges (do this) we can see that the whole 'shape' of God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit all supporting and including each other. That's why we call God a Trinity, or Tri-Unity – tri = 3 and unity = 1.

Praying

Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as God WAS in the beginning
IS now
and SHALL BE for ever. Amen.

Activities

Using the sheet the children can make a hand-held creed. Each child will need a paper fastener for this. They can also build up a collage picture of God, using the qualities and characteristics named. For this the group will need a large sheet of coloured paper, and the words can be stuck all over it, together with pictures which match up with the descriptions. When planning, look at the words and bring pictures which you feel are appropriate, for the children to choose from.

Notes