# ATTRIBUTES OF GOD PRESCHOOL LESSON PLANS

# TRINITY

By Liz Millay <u>www.steadfastfamily.com</u> (More information can be found <u>HERE</u>)

# Prep your visual

If you haven't already set up your visual board, now is a great time to do that. It isn't strictly necessary of course, but it is really helpful (especially for the preschool age group) to have some kind of visual prompt to help them remember all the awesome things you'll be learning together.

Simply write "God is..." at the top of a piece of foam poster board. Then for, each characteristic we learn, you will tape an image on the board that represents it. We always have this board visible during our lessons.

Here is the image for this set of lessons:



Because this can be such a tricky topic, I wrote a whole post with tips on explaining the Trinity to kids! Check it out right HERE.

# God is Three in One (Week 1)

Introduce the concept of God as the Trinity.

#### Materials Needed:

- Worship music
- Bible (I always have a Bible to hold up and remind them that it's God's Word)
- "God is..." board
- Trinity knot/triangle cut out with tape to stick on the board
- Bible storybook with Jesus' baptism story (we used this one)

#### Worship Through Song

(My goal is to select songs that point us to how amazing our God is. If a song doesn't already have motions, we always make up some to go along.)

#### Mighty God by Listener Kids

#### Trinity Song

### **Teaching Time**

(This time lasts no longer than ten minutes and I try to keep the kids engaged through using motions, asking questions, and recruiting volunteers to help)

(Review) SAY: Can you remember what we learned about God last month? (Point to the picture of the earth on the board.) God is... Creator!

SAY: Today, we are going to learn something new about who God is! We are going to learn a special new word, are you ready? The word is Trinity. Can everyone say "Trinity"?

Everyone says "Trinity"

ASK: Does anyone know how many God's there are? Let someone answer, or tell them "one."

SAY: Yes, the Bible tells us that there is only ONE GOD. Everyone hold up one finger. Only ONE GOD. But, this \*one God\* is so awesome and amazing that he is three persons. Everyone hold up three fingers.

#### ASK: So, how many God's are there? One! (Hold up one finger)

ASK: And how many persons are the one God?

Three! (Hold up three fingers)

SAY: That's right! There is one God who is three persons. God is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Can you say that with me? (Repeat the three persons together). Good job! We will be learning more about those three in the next few weeks.

(Optional) Read the story of Jesus' baptism. Pointing out that all three persons of the Trinity are in the story together.

SAY: Jesus is all God, the Father is all God, and the Spirit is all God. And together they are just ONE God. It's kind of confusing, isn't it? But God just is so big and so amazing that sometimes it is hard for us to understand!

SAY: Something that helps me remember this is the shape of a triangle. How many sides does a triangle have? (Three) Thats right! Let's draw a triangle in the air and count the sides.

Make a triangle in the air once or twice.

SAY: A triangle helps me remember about the Trinity because one triangle has three sides, just like there is one God with three persons. (A triangle isn't really a great metaphor for the Trinity, however for this instance, we are using it just as a way to remember with a mental picture)

**SAY: And now, I have a picture of a really fancy triangle.** (Hold up your picture of the Trinity Knot). It has three sides for the three persons and one circle in the middle for one God. Let's hang it on our board to help us remember that God is Trinity. Can you say Trinity one more time? (Hang up the picture)

SAY: Now, lets sing a fun song to help us remember the Trinity.

Sung to the tune of "Are you Sleeping?"

God the Father, God the Father

God the Son, God the Son

God the Holy Spirit, God the Holy Spirit

Three in One, Three in One

### **Closing Routine**

ASK: Does anyone remember what learning about God makes us want to do? (See if anyone can remember) That's right! It makes us want to praise him! When I say "When we learn about God, what do we want to do?" you shout "PRAISE HIM!" (Shout that back and forth a few times.)

#### SING: Hallelu, Hallelujah

We sing without accompaniment, but here is the <u>classic version</u> and here is a <u>super fun</u> <u>updated version</u>. We like to sit down and whisper the "Hallelu" and stand up and shout the "Praise ye the Lord"

Finish with the finger play "Open Shut Them":

Open shut them, open shut them Give a big clap! Open shut them, open shut them Lay them in your lap

# God the Father (Week 2)

#### **Materials Needed:**

- Worship music
- Bible (I always have a Bible to hold up and remind them that it's God's Word)
- "God is..." board

### Worship Through Song

(My goal is to select songs that point us to how amazing our God is. If a song doesn't already have motions, we always make up some to go along.)

#### Mighty God by Listener Kids

#### Trinity Song

Sung to the tune of "Are you Sleeping?"

God the Father, God the Father

God the Son, God the Son

God the Holy Spirit, God the Holy Spirit

Three in One, Three in One

### **Teaching Time**

(This time lasts no longer than ten minutes and I try to keep the kids engaged through using motions, asking questions, and recruiting volunteers to help)

*(Review)* SAY: Can you remember what we've learned about God? (Point to the picture of the earth on the board.) God is...Creator! And what did we learn about God last week? God is... Trinity! (It may seem repetitive to review everything before the lesson each week, but the kids love sharing what they know and it really helps them to remember!)

SAY: Yes, God is Trinity. Because, how many Gods are there? One! And how many persons in the One God? Three! Yes, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Today we are going to learn more about God the Father.

ASK: What are some things that fathers do?

Let them share some of the things their dads do.

# SAY: Those are some great things! Now, I want to share with you some things that God the Father does for His children...

- 1. He gives us life
- 2. He takes care of us
- 3. He teaches us
- 4. He always loves us

SAY: One of the best things that our fathers do for us is that they LOVE us and God the Father loves us with the biggest love in the world! I hope you never ever forget that God the Father loves you more than anyone!

SAY: Now, lets sing a song to help us remember how good our Father God is to us! Have everyone stand and sing <u>"Good, Good Father".</u> We added motions along with the chorus!

## **Closing Routine**

ASK: Does anyone remember what learning about God makes us want to do? (See if anyone can remember) That's right! It makes us want to praise him! When I say "When we learn about God, what do we want to do?" you shout "PRAISE HIM!" (Shout that back and forth a few times.)

#### SING: Hallelu, Hallelujah

We sing without accompaniment, but here is the <u>classic version</u> and here is a <u>super fun</u> <u>updated version</u>. We like to sit down and whisper the "Hallelu" and stand up and shout the "Praise ye the Lord"

Finish with the finger play "Open Shut Them":

Open shut them, open shut them Give a big clap! Open shut them, open shut them Lay them in your lap

# God the Son (Week 3)

#### **Materials Needed:**

- Worship music
- Bible (I always have a Bible to hold up and remind them that it's God's Word)
- "God is..." board

### Worship Through Song

(My goal is to select songs that point us to how amazing our God is. If a song doesn't already have motions, we always make up some to go along.)

#### Mighty God by Listener Kids

#### Trinity Song

Sung to the tune of "Are you Sleeping?"

God the Father, God the Father

God the Son, God the Son

God the Holy Spirit, God the Holy Spirit

Three in One, Three in One

### **Teaching Time**

(This time lasts no longer than ten minutes and I try to keep the kids engaged through using motions, asking questions, and recruiting volunteers to help)

*(Review)* SAY: Can you remember what we've learned about God? (Point to the picture of the earth on the board.) God is...Creator! And what have we been learning about God lately? God is... Trinity!

SAY: Last week we learned more about God the Father and how much he loves us. Today we are going to learn more about God the Son!

ASK: Does anyone know the name of God the Son? Whose birthday do we celebrate on Christmas? Jesus!

SAY: Yes! God the Son is Jesus. God came down to Earth and was born as a little baby. Can everyone pretend to cradle a baby? The big big God who made the whole wide world was born as a little tiny baby.

SAY: And he was a kid like you too! Isn't that awesome? He had to obey his parents, do chores, and learn new things just like you!

**ASK: But, did Jesus stay as a tiny little baby or as a kid?** No!

SAY: That's right! He grew up. Can everyone stretch up tall and pretend to grow up? Jesus didn't stay a baby, he grew up into a man. And when he became a man he did something really important for you and me.

**ASK: Does anyone know what Jesus did for us?** Died on a cross. (They may or may not know this)

SAY: That's right, Jesus died on the cross. Can you put your arms out like a cross? God the Son became a human like us and even though he never did anything wrong or bad, he died. He did that so that we don't have to die and be away from God forever. He died for us so that we can be forgiven of the bad things we do and live with God forever!

SAY: The story doesn't end there either. He didn't stay dead on the cross! Jesus, God the Son, came from heaven, down to earth, he died on the cross, and then he came alive again! Let's sing a song to help us remember all about what Jesus did.

Sing <u>"Lord I Lift Your Name on High"</u> with motions.

# **Closing Routine**

ASK: Does anyone remember what learning about God makes us want to do? (See if anyone can remember) That's right! It makes us want to praise him! When I say "When we learn about God, what do we want to do?" you shout "PRAISE HIM!" (Shout that back and forth a few times.)

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Finish with the finger play "Open Shut Them":

Open shut them, open shut them Give a big clap! Open shut them, open shut them Lay them in your lap

# God the Holy Spirit! (Week 4)

#### **Materials Needed:**

- Worship music
- Bible (I always have a Bible to hold up and remind them that it's God's Word)
- "God is..." board

### Worship Through Song

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#### Mighty God by Listener Kids

Trinity Song

Sung to the tune of "Are you Sleeping?"

God the Father, God the Father

God the Son, God the Son

God the Holy Spirit, God the Holy Spirit

Three in One, Three in One

### **Teaching Time**

(This time lasts no longer than ten minutes and I try to keep the kids engaged through using motions, asking questions, and recruiting volunteers to help)

*(Review)* SAY: Can you remember what we've learned about God? (Point to the picture of the earth on the board.) God is...Creator! And what have we been learning about God lately? God is... Trinity!

SAY: Yes, God is Trinity. Because, how many Gods are there? One! And how many persons in the One God? Three! Yes, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We've learned about God the Father and God the Son, today we are going to learn about God the Holy Spirit.

SAY: When Jesus was on earth, he said that when he went back to be with God the Father, he would send the Holy Spirit to be with us. Another name for the Holy Spirit is HELPER. Can you make this motion that means "help?" Do the sign for help.

SAY: Let's learn about the different ways that the Holy Spirit can HELP (make the sign) us. I am going to need five volunteers.

Bring your volunteers up to the front. They are each going to make a motion for the different ways the Holy Spirit helps us.

- 1. He comforts us when we are sad or scared. We can know God is with us and have peace. (Make a hug motion)
- 2. He helps us remember what we learn about God and his Word. (Point to head)
- 3. He helps us to pray. (Make praying hands)
- 4. He helps us stop from doing what's wrong. (Hold up a hand)
- 5. He helps us grow to do good things. (Stretch up tall)

Go back over these with motions once or twice.

# SAY: The Holy Spirit helps (make motion) us in so many amazing ways! Want to hear a story about God speaking to someone from the Bible?

Tell the story of God speaking to Elijah in a whisper while he is hiding in a cave (1 Kings 19:9-13). For each part of the story do motions to go along (wave your arms for the wind, stomp feet for the earthquake, etc) and then get really really quiet at the whisper part.

# SAY: God the Holy Spirit speaks to us in a quiet whisper too. Not with loud words, but quietly inside our hearts.

ASK: Because what is the Holy Spirit.. our?? Helper! (Do motion)

### **Closing Routine**

ASK: Does anyone remember what learning about God makes us want to do? (See if anyone can remember) That's right! It makes us want to praise him! When I say "When we learn about God, what do we want to do?" you shout "PRAISE HIM!" (Shout that back and forth a few times.)

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Open shut them, open shut them Give a big clap! Open shut them, open shut them Lay them in your lap