



GOD

OVERVIEW

Teaching Objectives

- Teach participants that God is loving, but God is also just
- Teach participants that the Bible is the basis for what we believe about God

Desired Learning Outcomes

- Participants can recite the God Section with motions.
- Participants can describe the nature of God as loving and just.

Key Scriptures

- Habakkuk 1:13 (for discussion)
- 1 John 4:8b
- Exodus 34:7b

Key Teaching Concepts

- God is loving.
- God is just.

List of Materials

- **Teaching Materials**

God Section of Gospel Presentation (Instructor's DVD)

Two Glove Skit: Two large gloves (Instructor's DVD)

Garcia Skit: Shawl or blanket, bandanna, hat, clipboard, several items of food, rope for whip; Script in "play format" is at end of unit (Instructor's DVD)

Pick Your Own God Skit: Shopping bag with religious and worldly items (See page 9 for suggestions)

"What is God Like?" Balloon Bouquet: Large yellow balloons, sticks or straws, vase, black markers or pens

Farley character, Farley Posters, Kids' EE Passport

- **Craft Materials**

One pair disposable latex gloves for each student (OR giant gloves from cardstock or craft foam)

Glue, hot glue gun, or stapler; scissors, markers, crayons, glitter

Trinity Craft (at end of unit)

- **Take Home Truth**

Latex gloves

"God is Love" Pencil Sharpener

Suggestions for Teaching this Unit

- Before you plan the class agenda, read all of the Teaching Activities and the Teaching Script. Select what you think is appropriate for the needs of your class. Write out your plan and share it with team leaders.
- Be a confident role-model of the Gospel Presentation and accompanying motions. Review the motions on the Instructor's DVD.



Note: We live in a culture of disbelief. The standard of truth and morality are found only in God and His Word. God is the source of all truth. God's nature and character define truth. Post-Modern kids don't believe in ultimate truth. Truth is more how they define it for themselves.

NOTES



Unit 10: GOD

Suggested Teacher's Agenda

Set the Mood

Welcome

Acknowledge God

- Prayer
- Song and Praise: Romans 3:23 and Matthew 5:48 Cadence

Review Truth

- Share Truth
- Scavenger Hunt Object
- Review Previous Units

Memorize Truth: Transition

Dramatize Truth: "Pick Your Own God" Skit

Illustrate Truth:

- Mind Map
- "What is God Like?" Balloon Bouquet

Illustrate Truth: Two Glove Skit

Dramatize Truth

- Garcia Skit (Script in "Play Format" is at end of unit)
- Bank Robber Illustration

Team Time

Craft Truth

- Two Gloves
- Trinity Craft (at end of unit)

Team Time

Take Home Truth

- Two Gloves
- "God is Love" Pencil Sharpener

Weekly Challenge

Acknowledge God

- Prayer
- Song

*NOTE: These are SUGGESTIONS to help with class preparation.
Let the Holy Spirit guide your choices of teaching techniques and materials.*

Unit 10



GOD

PRESENTATION

Set the Mood!

- **Music**
"On the One Hand" from *The Big Trip Musical*
- **Farley**
Farley is smiling. He is wearing big, white gloves and holding a string of yellow balloons in his hands.
- **Teachers**
Teacher wears large gloves OR large foam hands and shakes students' hands as they enter classroom. With music (above) playing, team leaders and students toss balloons around room, singing "On the One Hand."

W

Welcome

Let's pray and praise God. Then we can talk about our gloves, the balloons, and all kinds of things!

A

Acknowledge God

- **Prayer**

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank You that You are merciful and love us. Thank You that You are holy and just and must punish sin. Thank You that Jesus paid the penalty for our sins and offers us the gift of eternal life. Amen.

- **Song and Praise**

Teacher and team leaders lead class in a march of Romans 3:23 and Matthew 5:48.

All have sinned and that's a fact.
It's the way we humans act.
We fall short and there's no way
To be perfect every day.
Go to Heaven is God's plan
Jesus is the way we can.

R

Review Truth

- **Share Truth**

Class members share how they used their Take Home Truth. Ask if anyone shared the Broad Jump Illustration and Rotten Egg Illustration.

- **Scavenger Hunt Object**

Ask volunteers to show their objects found during the week, and report how they used them to share the Gospel.

- **Review Previous Units**

Ask volunteers to share with Farley the Talking and Testimony, Two Questions, Transition, and Grace Sections of Gospel Presentation. One team leader can be Farley's "voice," interacting and prompting students as they are sharing.

Review Man Section:

What is man's problem? (sin)

Approximately how many sins would a person commit over a lifetime if he/she were really good? (70,000; Three Sins a Day Illustration)

Define sin.

Everyone recites Man Section, with motions and Scriptures.

SO WHAT KEEPS US FROM GETTING THIS GIFT?

We all sin, and we cannot save ourselves.

What is sin? Sin is anything that we think, say, do, or don't do that does not please God.

The Bible says, "... for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God," (Romans 3:23)

The Bible also says, "Be perfect, therefore, as your Heavenly Father is perfect." (Matthew 5:48)

**Trying to be good enough to get into Heaven would be like ...
(Rotten Egg Illustration)**

THERE MUST BE A DIFFERENT WAY--GOD'S WAY!

Let's review our Bible verses. Remember, the Bible is God's Word, and it's the basis for what we believe. That's why we quote Scriptures when we share the Gospel. What we share must be true according to the Bible.

Review Scriptures and meaning:

**... for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God,
(Romans 3:23)**

**Be perfect, therefore, as your Heavenly Father is perfect.
(Matthew 5:48)**

Volunteers share the Man Section and Scriptures with Farley. They interact with Farley as if he is a real person (pat his hand, make eye contact, and speak with a compassionate and friendly voice). Teacher holds up the Farley Posters to help students remember .

Memorize Truth: Transition

Remind students of the Transition Question from the Man Unit:

THERE MUST BE A DIFFERENT WAY--GOD'S WAY!

Discuss what this different way might be, allowing students to share their ideas.

NOTE: Emphasize importance of Transition Questions as the bridge from one section of the Gospel Presentation to the next.

Dramatize Truth: "Pick Your Own God" or Shopping Bag Skit

Set up for this skit in a corner of your classroom, or in an adjacent room. Play "New Age" music in background. A big sign hangs across the wall that reads, "Pick Your Own God Convention." A table is covered with religious and worldly items, such as candles, incense, Buddha figure, angels, travel magazines, Homes for Sale guides, face cream, horoscopes, money, etc. (any objects that will encourage conversations toward worldly pleasures and ways). Include a Bible on the table.

Several adults mill around the table.

Introduce by explaining: **Many people want to "pick their own gods" and "make up their own religion." Some people think it's more personal to put together their own religion rather than to accept the Bible-based faith. Some people in today's world say, "We are our own gods. We'll create our own religion!" This is a very rebellious way of thinking.**

Let's see what is happening today at this "Pick Your Own God" Convention. Class moves to that corner of the room or the adjacent room where skit is set up.

A team of shoppers, with a big shopping bag, walk up to the table. They make dramatic comments about each item, exclaim how wonderful or helpful that item is,

and show each item to the audience before stashing it in their huge shopping bag. However, each time someone picks up the Bible, sees a cross or other symbol of Christianity, they make comments like, **I don't have time to read this book . . . it's too long. And besides, there are no pictures; I remember my grandma reading this book. She gave one to me for my birthday many years ago; Here's a cross? Oh! That's too bloody!**

Volunteers wander over to teacher, set down their shopping bag, and sit down.

Teacher takes items from shopping bag and sets them on the table.

Teacher: **People often want to pick their own gods and make up their own religion rather than hear what the Bible says about God, life and eternal life.**

Do you know what is missing in all this stuff? (Allow time for answers).

There is no interest in the Bible or Jesus. People replace Biblical worship with the worship of the things of this world or of themselves.

New Age Conventions are on the increase. There's an increased interest in sorcery and witchcraft books, in self-pleasure, in being all that you can be through your own power and strength. The Bible condemns association with such things (see Deuteronomy 18:10 and Galatians 5:19-20).

People without Jesus have an empty place in their hearts. They try to fill it with all kinds of religions and things. The only way to fill this empty place is to have a relationship with God. Jesus says in John 14:6 "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father except through Me."

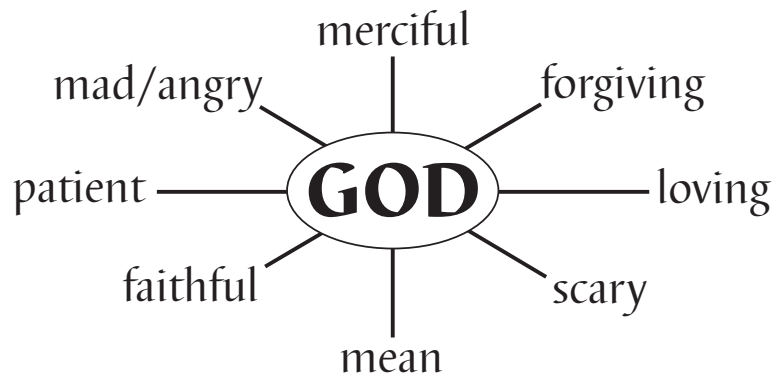
Illustrate Truth: Mind Map

Write "GOD" in center of large chalkboard or flip chart. As students answer the following questions, draw lines from GOD outward and write their answers at other end of lines.

What do you believe about God?

What do you know about Him?

What is your experience with God?



The Bible says that there is one God. Have you ever said the Apostle's Creed in church? It says in part, "I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit." That is the God of the Bible.

The God of Christianity is one God in three Persons. This is why we refer to our God as the "Holy Trinity." The God of the Bible is God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit.

Illustrate Truth: "What is God Like?" Balloons

Teacher gives each team leader one yellow balloon on a stick and a black permanent marker. Teams write words describing God's character on their balloon.

Examples: God is --

Gentle	Holy	Perfect	Pure
Good	Patient	Love	Creator
Strong	Merciful	All-knowing	Just

Place balloons in vase as a colorful bouquet, displaying the characteristics of God's nature.

Explain that it is important to have a complete and balanced view of God. Ask **Where do we get our information about God?** (Bible)

The following can be done in small groups, locating these Scriptures in the Bible, and discussing what each Scripture tells us about God.

Share the following Bible verses that teach about God.

The Bible is God's revelation to us about Himself (2 Peter 1:21).

The Bible tells us "God is **perfect** and all His ways are **just**" (Deuteronomy 32:4).

The Bible also says "God is **holy**" (Isaiah 6:3).

There is none who is His equal (Isaiah 40:25).

But, what else is God like?

God is **light** (1 John 1:5).

God is **spirit** (John 4:24).

God is **love** (1 John 4:8b).

God's loving kindness is **better than life** (Ps.63:3).

God loves us with an **everlasting love** (Jer.31:3).

The God of the Bible is holy. That means He is pure and sinless in every way and at all times. He hates and punishes sin. God will not allow sin in His presence.

**The Bible says about God,
Your eyes are too pure to look on evil,
You cannot tolerate wrong.
(Habakkuk 1:13)**

The Bible teaches in 1 John 4:8b that "God is love." He loves us so much that "He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have everlasting life." That is John 3:16, and it tells how much God loves us!

On the one hand, God loves us and wants a relationship with us. On the other hand, God hates our sin. Sin robs us of a relationship with Him.

Illustrate Truth: Two Glove Skit

Teacher puts on large, white gloves or foam hands. LOVE is written on the right hand and JUST is written on the left hand. Teacher recites entire God Section using these motions:

(See Instructor's DVD for motions.)

THERE MUST BE A DIFFERENT WAY -- GOD'S WAY!

(God motion -- arms straight up, above head)

God is loving, but God is also just.

(loving -- hug yourself; just -- right hand fist hits open left hand)

The Bible says, "God is love," but the Bible also says,

(love -- hug yourself)

"He will by no means clear the guilty."

(right hand fist hits open left hand)

On the one hand, God loves us and doesn't want to punish us;

(On the one hand -- stretch right hand outward; loves -- hug yourself)

but on the other hand, God is just and must punish sin.

(on the other hand -- stretch left hand outward)

(just -- right hand fist hits left hand)

DO YOU SEE THE PROBLEM?

(both arms out-stretched and shrug shoulders)

GOD SOLVED THIS PROBLEM BY SENDING HIS SON JESUS.

(Jesus -- arms stretched outward)

Review the following, as needed:

God is just, so He must punish sin. In the last unit we talked about the wages of sin. When a person sins, he earns the wages of death. Remember, we talked about Heaven and there is no sin in Heaven. When we talked about mankind, we learned that all have sinned. All sin must be paid for. The payment for sin is death. God must punish sin with death. (Remind students that we know the solution ... Jesus.)

Volunteers demonstrate the Two Glove Skit. Recite the complete God Section with motions using the gloves.

Illustrate Truth: Variation of Two Glove Skit

A fun way to practice the God Section is for two people to stand side-by-side with their inner arms around each other's shoulders or waists. The person on the right wears the LOVE glove while the person on the left wears the JUST glove. They attempt the hand motions for the God Section as if they are one individual.

Dramatize Truth: Garcia Skit

The Garcia skit shows that God is both loving and just. It provides a bridge to the next unit (Unit 11, Christ) demonstrating Christ's substitution and atonement for man. This skit may be done with a narrator reading the script while volunteers act out the parts. (Skit in "play format" is at end of this unit.)

A long time ago there was a man we will call Garcia, who was the leader of a group of people. His group lived in tents out in the country and was constantly on the move.

They also kept their families with them. One night Garcia's lieutenant came and told him someone had broken into the supply tent and had stolen some food. Garcia was OUTRAGED because food was in short supply and had to be rationed. He gathered all the families together and told them that from then on, anyone caught stealing food would be publicly whipped.

Not long after that night, the lieutenant came to Garcia and told him that more food had been stolen. But the thief had been caught. And it was Garcia's own mother! Garcia had a problem. If Garcia whipped his elderly mother, she would probably die. But if he did not punish her, he would lose the authority and respect of everyone as their leader.

Everyone wondered what Garcia would do. He pronounced the crime -- stealing food; and the punishment it deserved -- to be publicly whipped. Then Garcia did something that shocked everyone. He took off his shirt from his own back and ordered his lieutenant to whip HIM instead of his mother!

You see, only this way was Garcia's justice satisfied. At the same time, his love for his mother was proven. The penalty was paid, but it was paid by Garcia himself.

Garcia had received the punishment because of his love for his mother. We are like Garcia's mother. We deserve to be punished for our sins. But God loves us and doesn't want to punish us.

This illustration shows God's love and His justice. God is just. He must punish ALL sin, but He loves us so much that He sent Jesus Christ to take our place, to bear the punishment for our sins. We are like Garcia's mother. We deserve to be punished for our sins. But, God spared us that punishment by sending Jesus to die in our place and to pay the full price for all of our sins.

Dramatize Truth: Bank Robber Illustration

Volunteer dresses as a robber. He wears a trench coat with a stocking over his face or kerchief across mouth and nose, and hat pulled down on his head to hide his eyes. He sneaks up to the snack table and steals a plate of potato chips. Teacher deputizes several class members and tells them to catch the thief. They arrest the thief and recover the plate of potato chips.

Instead of potato chips, suppose I rob a bank. However, a hidden camera takes a picture of me doing it. When I come before the judge, the evidence makes it clear how I should plea. I should say, "Guilty, your Honor." Suppose instead, I plead with the judge and say, "I'm sorry I robbed the bank. I'll give all the money back, and I promise I'll never rob another bank if you let me go."

Do you think the judge should listen to my plea and let me go? If he did, he wouldn't be a just judge.

There is a standard of justice that requires a payment for every crime committed. It is the same with God, and He has a standard for justice that requires a payment for all sin.

Team Time

- Students make their gloves (Craft Truth below).
- Students pair up, and practice the Two Glove Skit with motions (Include "THERE MUST BE A DIFFERENT WAY--GOD'S WAY!" with the God Section of the Gospel Presentation).
- Team leaders sign Kids' EE Passports after students memorize materials.

Craft Truth

- **Two Gloves (Option 1)**

Give each student a black marker (or pen) and a pair of latex gloves or large foam hands. Write LOVE on right glove/hand and JUST on left glove/hand.

- **Two Gloves (Option 2)**

Trace both hands in shape of mittens on cardstock, making shape as large as will fit. Cut out and glue or staple together (should be large enough to slide hands inside). Write LOVE on right hand mitten and JUST on left hand mitten.

- **Two Gloves (Option 3)**

Trace both hands as in Option 2, but use craft foam (found at local craft stores). Hot glue together and write LOVE on right hand mitten and JUST on left hand mitten.

- **Trinity Pyramid**

See pattern and instructions at end of this unit.

Take Home Truth

- **Two Gloves**
- **“God is Love” Pencil Sharpener**

God is loving, but God is also just. He loves us, but he must punish sin. As you wrote LOVE and JUST on the two gloves, the pencil sharpener reminds us of these qualities. It says, “God is Love.” However, God also keeps a record of our sins. Just as we keep records by writing things down with a sharpened pencil, so God records all of our sins. Do you see the problem? God solved this problem by sending His Son Jesus. We learned about Jesus when we learned the Gospel-in-a-Nutshell. Next week we will learn more about what Jesus did for us.

Weekly Challenge

- Encourage students to use the gloves and pencil sharpener to share that God is loving, but God is also just. Explain that God loves us and does not want to punish us, but He is also just and must punish sin.
- Scavenger Hunt Object: participants find an object and use it to share the Gospel.

Acknowledge God

- **Prayer**

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Your Son, that whosoever believes in Him will not perish, but have everlasting life. Amen.

- **Song** “On the One Hand” from *The Big Trip Musical*

Dramatize Truth: Garcia Skit

The Garcia skit shows that God is both loving and just. It provides a bridge to the next unit (Unit 11, Christ) demonstrating Christ's substitution and atonement for man. This skit may be done with a narrator reading the script while volunteers act out the parts. (Skit in "play format" is at end of this unit.)

Garcia—brave leader of a group of people. He wears a bandanna.

Garcia's lieutenant—soldier with clipboard listing camp supplies. He wears a sash.

Garcia's mother—old woman who cunningly conceals stolen food supplies under her long shawl.

Narrator: **A long time ago there was a man we will call Garcia, who was the leader of a group of people. His group lived in tents out in the country and was constantly on the move. They also kept their families with them.**

One night Garcia's lieutenant reported that someone had broken into the supply tent and had stolen some food.

Garcia's lieutenant: **Sir, a thief has stolen some of our food.**

Garcia: **Call the people together! I will speak to them.**

Narrator: **Garcia was OUTRAGED because food was in short supply and had to be rationed. He gathered all the families together and told them that from then on, anyone caught stealing food would be publicly whipped.**

Narrator pauses for actor's dialogue.

Garcia: **ANYONE caught stealing will be whipped!**

Narrator: **Not long after that night, the lieutenant caught someone sneaking into the supply tent.** Narrator pauses.

Stealing Scene: A woman sneaks up to a pile of food and hides some food items under her shawl. Lieutenant grabs the woman whose face is hidden by a large shawl. He takes her to Garcia.

Lieutenant: **Senior Garcia, I caught the person stealing food.**

Garcia: **Bring the person to me at once.**

Narrator: **The lieutenant brought in the struggling woman, her face still hidden by a shawl. As Garcia lifts the shawl from her face, he speaks.**

Garcia: **Who is this woman that has been stealing from our people?**

Narrator: Then a look of horror crosses his face.

Garcia: **Mother! YOU stole the food?**

Garcia's mother: Please, have mercy on me!

Garcia: What can I do? How can I keep my word to my people and save my mother, too!

Narrator: The thief had been caught. And it was Garcia's own mother! Garcia had a problem. If Garcia whipped his elderly mother, she would probably die. But if he did not punish her, he would lose the authority and respect of everyone as their leader.

Narrator pauses. Garcia is pacing back and forth, pondering what to do.

Narrator: People began to gather. Everyone wondered, "What would Garcia do?" Finally, he pronounced the crime -- stealing food; and the punishment it deserved -- to be publicly whipped. Then Garcia did something that shocked everyone. He took off his own shirt. Looking sad, yet determined to keep his word and save his mother, Garcia commanded:

Garcia: Lieutenant, whip me in place of my mother. Garcia leans over his mother to protect her and receive the whipping in her place.

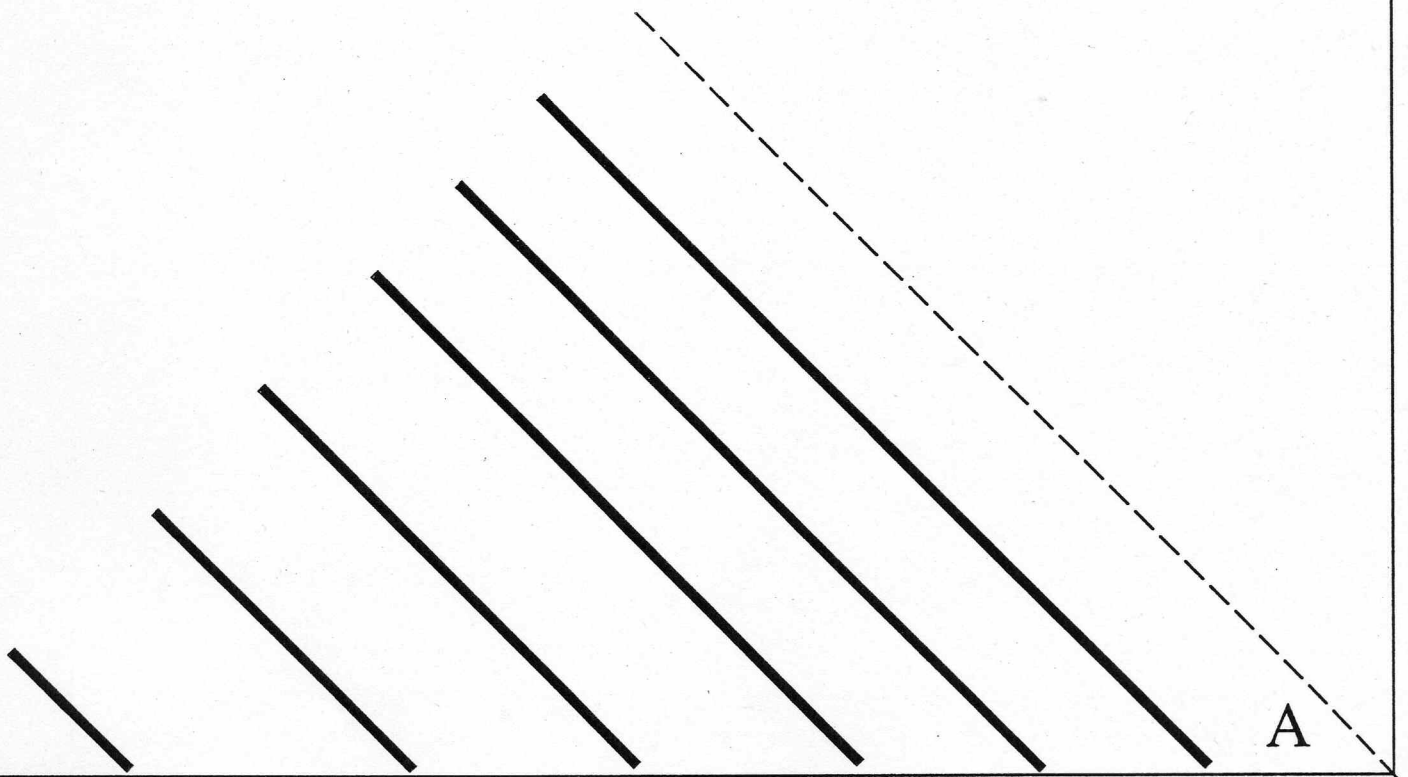
Lieutenant: Pretends to whip Garcia with the rope.

Narrator: You see, only this way was Garcia's justice satisfied. At the same time, his love for his mother was proven. The penalty was paid. but it was paid by Garcia himself.

Garcia had received the punishment because of his love for his mother. We are like Garcia's mother. We deserve to be punished for our sins. But God loves us and doesn't want to punish us.

This illustration shows God's love and His justice. God is just. He must punish ALL sin, but He loves us so much that He sent Jesus Christ to take our place, to bear the punishment for our sins. We are like Garcia's mother. We deserve to be punished for our sins. But, God spared us that punishment by sending Jesus to die in our place and to pay the full price for all of our sins.

A



Fold square in half diagonally and in half diagonally again (into triangles). unfold and cut along dotted line. Write the names of God, one on each section (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). Draw a picture on each white triangle to represent God (throne for Father, cross for Son, dove for Holy Spirit). Match A's and glue or tape so that the shape forms a three-dimensional triangle.

