

# Our Spiritual GPS

## Theme

The Holy Spirit is our Guide.

## Object

A GPS and a map

## Scripture

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth.  
John 16:13 (NIV)

How many of you know what a GPS is? GPS stands for Global Positioning System. Many of us have a GPS in our car. If you have a smartphone, you may have a GPS application on it. When you want to go somewhere, you put the address of the place where you would like to go into your GPS, and it will give you turn-by-turn directions and put a picture on the screen showing you how to get there. Isn't that amazing? How does it do that? Well, first of all, the GPS device must have a map of the area where you are located installed. Then it connects to satellites orbiting the earth and the satellites send back information to the GPS which shows the directions on the screen.

That is amazing, but wait, there is even more. The GPS will help you find your way — even if you get lost. If you make a wrong turn, the GPS will adjust the directions to get you back on the right track. It tells you how fast you are going, how far it is to your destination, and what time you will arrive!

In trying to find our way through life's journeys, God has given us a spiritual GPS to guide us. That guide is the Holy Spirit. When we don't know what to do or which way to turn, the Holy Spirit always points us in the right direction. Do you remember that I told you the GPS needs a map to be able to show us the way? Well, that is true of our spiritual GPS as well. The map we must follow in our daily life is the Bible. It is the map that shows us how to live life in a way that is pure and good.

Some people rely on their feelings to help them make decisions. That's no good. Our feelings may change from day-to-day, so they cannot be trusted to guide us in the right direction. Besides, just because we feel good about something doesn't mean that it is the right thing to do, does it? We can always trust the Bible to help us to make the right decisions.

Some people look at what others are doing to help them make important decisions. That is no good either. Just because everyone else is doing it doesn't mean that it is the right thing to do. Tomorrow everyone might be doing something else.

Jesus knew that we needed help in making the right decisions in life. He promised that God would send the Holy Spirit "to guide us in all truth." That means that the Holy Spirit will help us to understand God's Word which always points us in the right direction. It points us to Jesus who is "the Way, the truth, and the life."

I can't imagine taking a trip without a GPS to help me find the way — and I can't imagine trying to navigate life's journey without the Holy Spirit to guide me. Whenever I don't know which way to turn, I can always turn to God's Word and let the Holy Spirit be my guide.

Heavenly Father, we are thankful that when our Lord Jesus went away, he sent the Holy Spirit to be our helper, our teacher, and our guide in our daily journey. Help us to follow his guidance. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Interactive Group Activities  
by Carol Williams & Charles Kirkpatrick

**Sermon Title:** "Our Spiritual GPS"

**Scripture Reading:** John 16:12-15

**GPS TRAIL:** Divide the children into teams A,B, and C. Send each team on a different GPS trail to see who can run to the end of the trail and back. (Make sure that each trail is the same length.) The children will run one at a time, tagging the next team player when they return to the team. If there is no space large enough for each team to go in different directions, then children can just run a relay line back and forth.

**RECALCULATING JUBILEE:** Have the children spread out in a designated area and run to whatever side of the area that the teacher points to or calls out. When the teacher shouts... RECALCULATING... the children must stop, then turn and run to the side of the room that the teacher tells them. When the designated time is up, children can shout... JUBILEE which means JOY. The teacher can add other ways of running to each side or area of the room as well, such as hopping, skipping, etc. If this activity is played outside — the children can run around trees and other obstacles, if desired.

**GPS HOPSCOTCH:** The children will play hopscotch in the usual way, but will read a word from today's lesson in each hopscotch square that they jump on, such as SPIRIT, TRUTH, GUIDE, SPEAK, JOURNEY, FUTURE, TELLING, etc. REMIND children that the GPS stands for GOD'S POSITIONING SPIRIT and these words need to stick in our hearts and minds throughout the week!

**MAP IT OUT:** Divide the children into groups and give each group a simple map to find a "treasure" which will be a BIBLE at the end of the MAP COURSE. The map can lead to a table, bookcase, or a shelf in the room. There will be various places indicated on the map and the children will have to go to each of these areas where they will get a candy or small treat from that area to show that they actually went to all the places on the map! When they have completed the course and have found the Bible treasure, they will return to their seat in the classroom. Each group can have a different map if the teacher is able to have that large of a space, OR the teacher can send the groups out one at a time while the rest of the class is in another room so they can't watch where the group has gone until it is their team's turn.

**BIBLE VERSE HUNT:** Let the children search the classroom to find hidden words from today's Bible verse. When a child finds a word, it will be brought to the front of

the room and taped onto a poster board that will have GOD'S POSITIONING SPIRIT written at the top. When all words have been found, if the words are not in the correct order, the teacher will let the children rearrange the words in the correct order.

**HOLY WORD PATH:** Give the children paper and crayons and pencils to write today's Bible verse in a path around their sheet of paper — as in a circle or a squiggly path, etc. Then they will hand the paper to the child on their right and everyone will have their turn at reading the Bible Verse PATH if they can follow the words in order. Tell children the words must be in the right order, but the path can go anywhere on the paper.

**BIBLE SWORD DRILL:** All the children can "follow the teachings" as they look up one Bible verse after another, as the teacher calls the verses out. Choose all verses that are easy to find if for younger children and ALL verses that have a teaching in them, such as the ten commandments, doing all things without murmurings and disputings (Phil 2:14); obeying parents (Eph 6:-14); reading God's Word (Matt4:4, Ps 119:105, II Tim 3:16-17), etc.

**SING A SONG:** LEAD ME, LORD

**S'MORES SNACK:** Split graham cracker into 2 halves. On top of graham cracker squares place mini-marshmallows. Place under broiler for a few seconds until toasty. Remove and place 1/2 of a Hershey bar on top of marshmallow. The heat from the marshmallow will melt the chocolate bar. Place other 1/2 of graham cracker on top. Press lightly to flatten marshmallows. These may be made ahead and wrapped in plastic wrap until ready to heat and eat. (Explain that the three parts of a S'MORE remind us of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit that make up the Trinity.)

**Song: "Lead Me, Lord"**

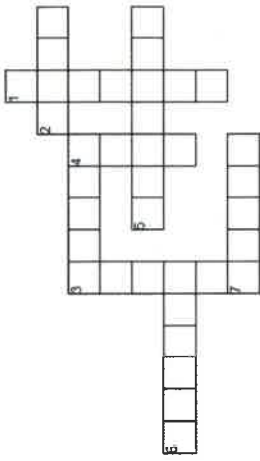
[Words and Music \(pdf\)](#)

[MP3 Accompaniment Track](#)

### **About Carol Williams**

Carol and her husband have served churches in Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Michigan, and Indiana. Carol loves to work with children so you will find her teaching in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. She also has clowning ministry in which she is known as Bubbles tc (the clown).

# Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

- To receive sounds with your ears
- To use your voice to talk to someone
- To give honor and praise
- A male parent
- A fact that has been proven

### DOWN

- To take something into your possession; to get something
- A supernatural being that can become visible (or audible) to humans
- To become familiar or acquainted with someone or something

RECEIVE	SPEAK	GLORIFY	KNOW
SPIRIT	FATHER	HEAR	TRUTH



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# Children's Worship Bulletin

## Trinity Sunday

John 16:12-15

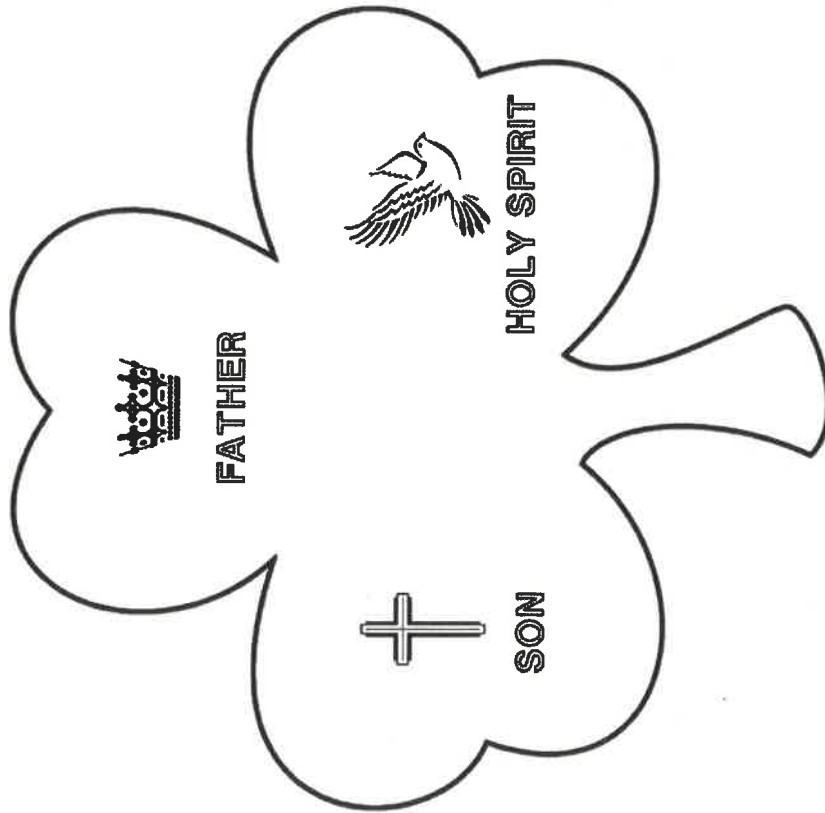
### Word Search Puzzle

P O T F N Z D D O G W F Y K Y  
 V Q R W M E O X B E A R N Q S  
 J I O H H C U I R Z T J J V J  
 S N M E Y Q J K P H R N X O J  
 K L A B E L O N G U T N L P  
 B C X R A W E Q V A T T Y E F  
 P B C S M M Y G E O H N F N Y  
 J E L U O Y S U J P S P E A K  
 D O T C I T L I R Q T H V I Q  
 Q C I N H Y D M I O Z Y J N  
 D N V F A T H E R K W X I K J  
 B R V S I A R I G L O R Y G O  
 H S X W H O P H W C H R T W A  
 E P J U M S Q Y W F L Y Z F H  
 A Q N U Y Y F A S G M Q W F Y

COME	TRUTH	MORE	HEARS
BELONG	GUIDE	SPIRIT	GLORY
SPEAK	FATHER	BEAR	KNOWN

Your Church Name  
Any Town, Anywhere

# Coloring Page



## TRINITY SUNDAY

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.  
John 16:13a

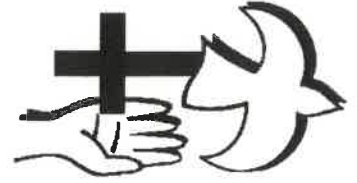
# Decoder Puzzle

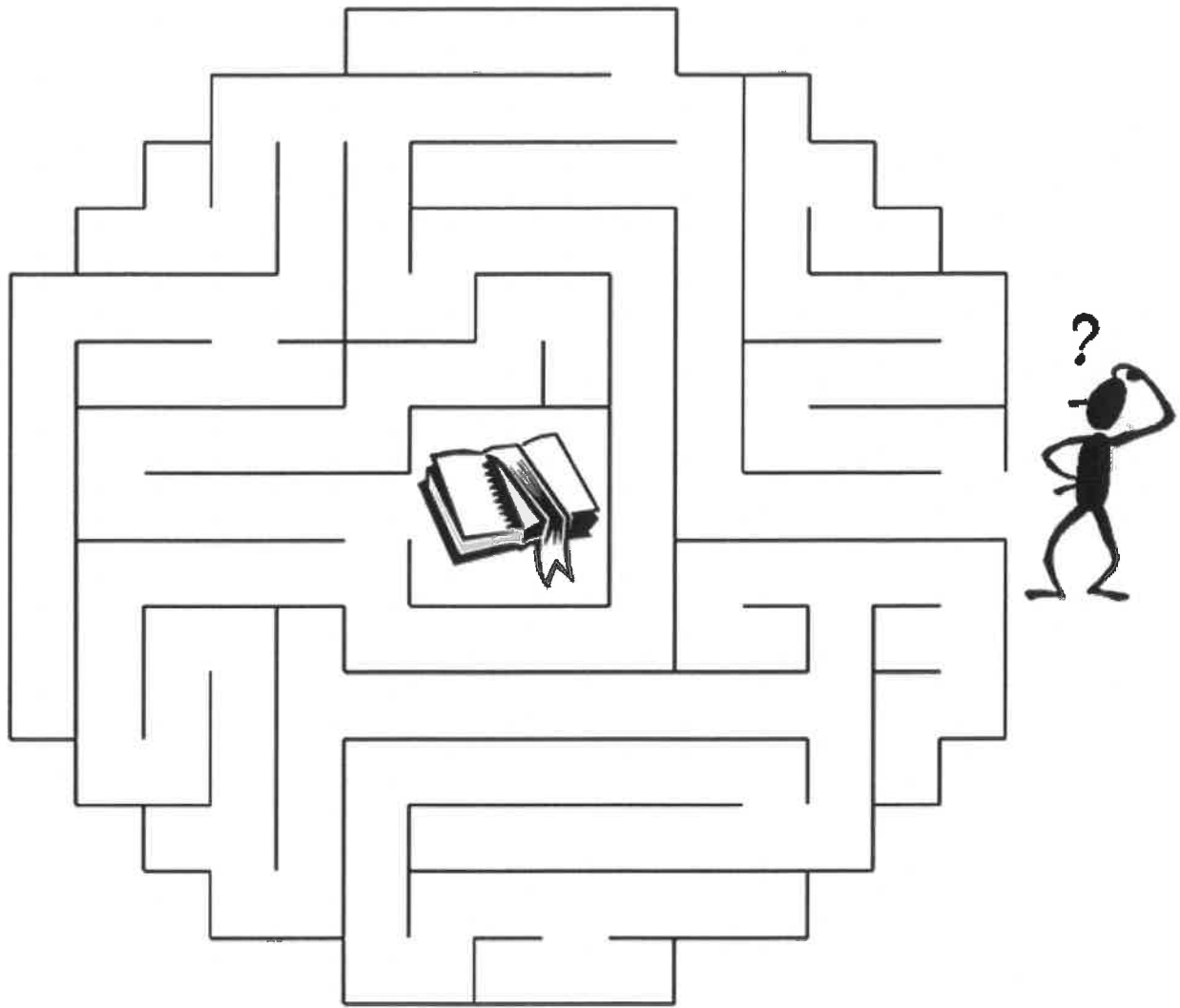
Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 19-16-9-18-9-20 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-5-12-15-14-7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-12-15-18-25 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-21-9-4-5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 20-18-21-20-8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 11-14-15-23-14 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-16-5-1-11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3-15-13-5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6-1-20-8-5-18 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8-5-1-18-19 \_\_\_\_\_

SPRIT	BELONG	GLORY	GUIDE	TRUTH
KNOWN	SPEAK	COME	FATHER	HEARS





But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

John 16:13 (NIV)

# The Mystery of the Trinity

Enter the missing vowels to complete the words from today's lesson about the Trinity.



1. TR \_ N \_ TY \_\_\_\_\_
2. SP \_ R \_ T \_\_\_\_\_
3. THR \_ \_ \_\_\_\_\_
4. S \_ N \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_ N \_ \_\_\_\_\_
6. MYST \_ RY \_\_\_\_\_
7. G \_ D \_\_\_\_\_
8. H \_ LY \_\_\_\_\_
9. P \_ RS \_ NS \_\_\_\_\_
10. F \_ TH \_ R \_\_\_\_\_

SPIRIT  
ONE

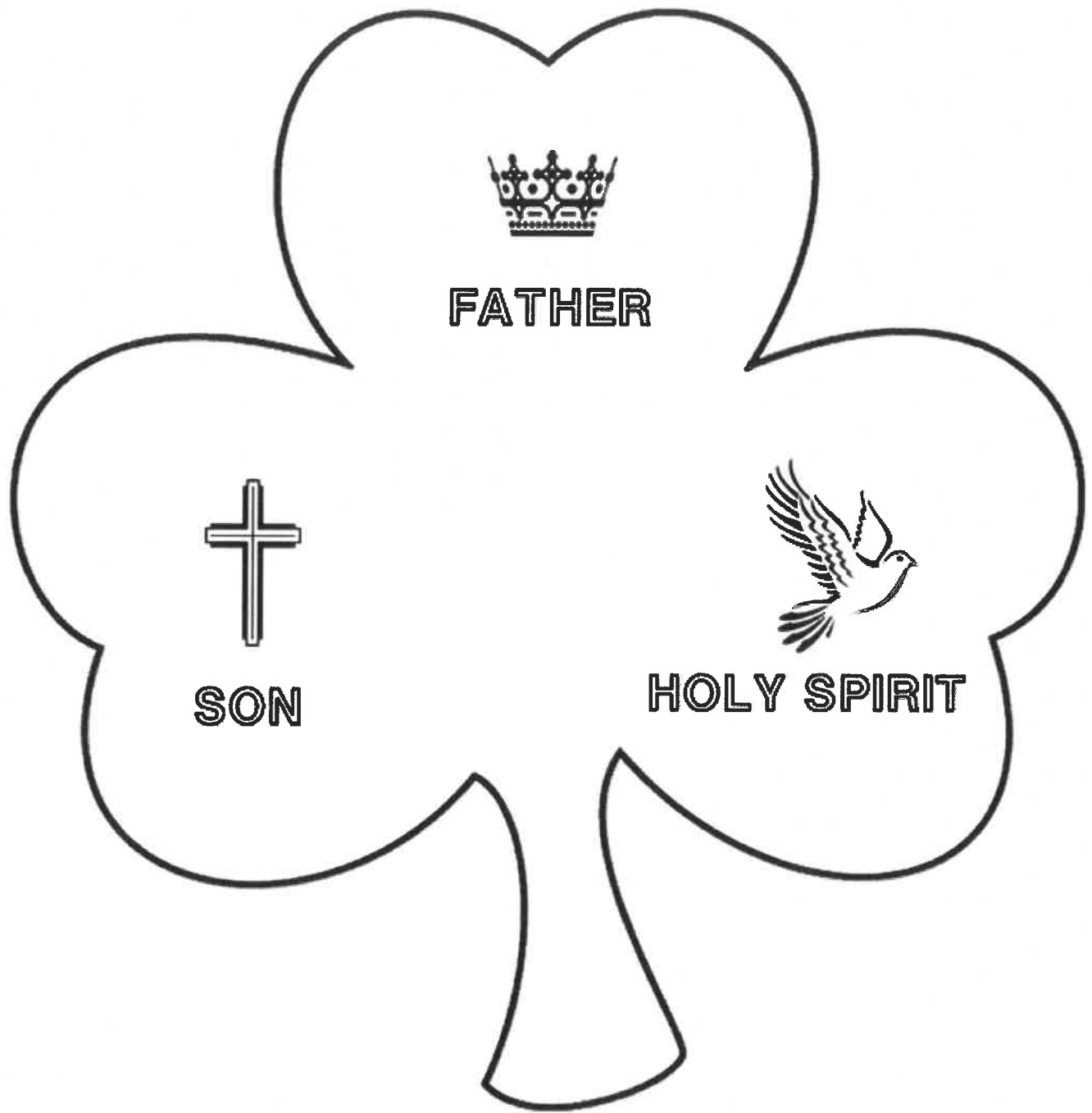
PERSONS  
MYSTERY

SON  
GOD

THREE  
FATHER

TRINITY  
HOLY





TRINITY SUNDAY

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes,  
he will guide you into all truth.

John 16:13a (NIV)

**FATHER**

**GOD**

**SON**

**HOLY SPIRIT**

The Trinity is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.