

But How Can That Be?

By Sandra Higley

for use as

STEP 1



Lesson 6

Focus:

Understanding our
Triune God.

Lesson 6

Bible Basis:

Deuteronomy 6:4-5;
Matthew 28:19;
2 Corinthians 13:14

Lesson 6

Memory Verse:

“Before me no god was formed, nor will
there be one after me. I, even I, am the
LORD, and apart from me there is no savior.”
—Isaiah 43:10b-11

Students will discuss things that are unexplainable as they explore the Trinity.

Materials:

Internet access

Scientists are coming up with new inventions all the time—things that don’t make sense right away, but work just the same. One innovation is a 3-D printed material that allows objects to be hard and soft at the same time. Let’s watch.

Share the following brief video with your students [:51]:

Title: New innovation in 3D-printed materials lets objects be both hard and soft

Source: QZ.com

URL: <https://qz.com/794784/a-new-innovation-in-3d-printed-materials-lets-objects-be-both-hard-and-soft/>

Short Description: Explanation about metamaterial mechanisms.

➤ **What are your thoughts about this new invention where something can be hard and soft at the same time?** (Answers will vary.)

It’s hard to understand how something like that is possible—two things that seem opposite—hard and soft—occurring at the same time. Sometime in the past, you have probably experienced a substance that has similar qualities. Some people call it Goop or Oobleck, but it’s made of cornstarch and water. And as crazy as it seems, as hard as it is to understand, it “is what it is”—hard and soft at the same time.

Ooblek is a non-Newtonian fluid. Let’s learn a little bit more about it here:

Share this video with your teens [1:59]:

Title: The Science of Cornstarch and Water

Source: YouTube

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYTerCbDUzE>

Short Description: Explanation from MIT on how a non-Newtonian fluid works.

➤ **How crazy is that? A liquid that can stop a bullet! Can you think of other examples of things that seem impossible but are still true?** (Allow students to share any examples that they have. Here are a few they may or may not know: Alaska is the most eastern, northern, and

western state in the U.S. Seems impossible, but because the Aleutian Islands stretch from the Western Hemisphere to the Eastern Hemisphere crossing the 180° line of longitude, Alaska is all of those things at the same time. Another example: A typical cloud weighs around 1.1 million pounds—how can something so heavy float in the sky?)

Even though there are things around us that seem unexplainable, they are still true. Two things can be true at the same time even though it boggles our minds. Today we are going to talk about something else that seems impossible: $1 + 1 + 1 = 1$.

Additional resource:

Title: Most Northern, Southern, Eastern, and Western States

Source: WorldAtlas.com

URL: <http://www.worldatlas.com/aatlas/infopage/nsewusa.htm>

Short Description: Information on state location.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Lesson 6 / July 12, 2020

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STEP 4 

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Materials:

- Whiteboard and marker
- Paper
- Pens/pencils

Before the lesson, write the following synopsis of what students learned in Step 2 on the whiteboard. Or, if this is an online lesson, create a Word document and send it to students asking them to have it available for this part of the lesson:

- God the Father – Sovereign King; Creator; covenant Father of all believers, adopting them into His family
- God the Son – lives in Christians, represents the Father to us, sustains all things, brings salvation through His death on the cross
- God the Holy Spirit – sanctifies us, empowers us, teaches us, convicts us of sin, and provides fellowship in relationships

When your teens have completed their Step 3 activities, show your list, either by sharing your screen or in the classroom.

➤ **This list is only partial. Can you think of other characteristics of each Person of the Trinity that we might add?** (Answers will vary. Here are a few examples of additions that might be added to the list. Father—draws people to Himself [John 6:44], determines world events/gives wisdom [Dan. 2:21]; Son—Creator [John 1:3], Intercessor [Rom. 8:34]; Holy Spirit—Comforter [John 14:16].)

Since we desire to know God and develop a relationship with Him, why not relate to each Person of the Trinity according to His characteristics? Since He is one God, our prayers will be heard if we pray to Him collectively, but as far as finding intimacy and making things more personal, relating to each Person is helpful. Look at your list. Think through some of the things that concern you today—what are some things you might talk to each Person of the Trinity about based on their characteristics? Allow your students to use a few minutes to write and think. Remind your students that some of the characteristics will overlap. If your teens need some prompts to get them going, ask them Who they might talk to when they feel sad? When they need wisdom? When they need assurance that things aren't

falling apart?

If time allows, invite volunteers to share some of the things they wrote. Challenge your students to interact with each Person in the Trinity in some way this week.

Close in prayer.

Text or email students three different times during the week. List the characteristics of God the Father in one communication and remind teens to pray about those. Repeat two other times for God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

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