

# One Plus One Equals Three

## Theme

When we are gathered in Jesus' name, He will be there with us.

## Object

A set of flash cards which you will make yourself.

## Scripture

"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

Matthew 18:20 [NIV]

It is back to school time! All around the world, children have either already started back to school or they will very soon. As a teacher, I can tell you that one thing that is very important for a teacher is to find out what their students already know. That way, they will know where they should start in teaching them what they should know.

I was wondering if it would be a good idea for our Sunday School teachers to give a little quiz to find out how much their students know about the Bible? As an experiment, I made up a sample quiz to try out on you this morning. Are you ready? If you know the answer, raise your hand.

How many of each animal did Moses take on the ark with him? (allow time for answers) Let's turn the card over and check our answer. "None!" I thought the answer was two. Oh, that's right, it was Noah that built the ark, not Moses.

Here is question number two. Are automobiles mentioned in the Bible? Let's check our answer. "Yes, in Acts 2:1" Let's see what it says in Acts 2:1. . ."When the day of Pentecost was come, they were all in one accord." Hey! I don't think it is talking about a Honda Accord automobile there!

Those first two questions were trick questions, weren't they? Well, I promise you that the next question is not a trick question. Here it is: According to the Bible, can one plus one ever equal

three? Let's check our answer. "Yes!" How can that be? The answer is in the Bible. Jesus said, "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Oh, I see, if two are gathered in Jesus' name, Jesus is there with them — so one plus one equals three.

Look around this room. I'm not sure exactly how many people are here this morning, but whatever the number is, you can add One to it, because Jesus is here too.

Dear Jesus, we thank you for being here with us this morning as we gather together to worship in your name. Amen.

# Group Activities

Sermon Title: "One Plus One Equals Three"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

## CHAIN OF THREE:

Children will divide into groups of 3 and as the teacher tells the groups what to do, they will continue in that activity until the whistle blows and then the children will change ONE person of their group with another child from another group and then do another activity as the teacher tells them to. Continue as time allows. Activities for the groups of 3 to do could be hopping, skipping, jumping, climbing, etc but the children cannot disconnect while doing the activities in their groups of 3 until its time to change partners.

## THREE LEGGED RACES:

The children can pair up in teams of two and use a string or scarf to tie two of their legs together as they stand next to each other. Then teams will RUN in a race to the finish line and back. If the teacher doesn't want to do this as a race, the children can just run or walk together in an area while the teacher plays music, etc.

## RUNNING CIRCLE:

All the children can run around an area until the teacher blows the whistle. When they hear the whistle, they'll quickly get into a circle around one of the words on the floor that says JESUS. These colorful words that say JESUS in very large letters can be placed in various areas of the designated area (even outside on a large parking lot if available). When children are in a circle around the JESUS word, they will recite today's Bible verse. Continue to play the game of RUNNING CIRCLE as time allows.

## 2 X 2:

Children will be divided into groups of 2 and will hunt for the word JESUS on many different items (such as a book, a chair, a door). When each group of 2 find the word JESUS, they they will have their "2 + 1" group and will recite today's Bible verse and then run to find another word JESUS and do the same. Let children hunt several times before returning to the classroom table.

## BALL BOUNCING X 3:

Children can throw a ball against the side of the building or a wall that is approved to do this activity and then let it bounce just THREE times only and then catch. The teacher can make many variations to this game but mostly just remember to let the children know that the number THREE is very important in today's lesson.

## 1+1=3 BANNER:

Give all the children a piece of construction paper and markers, stickers and glitter to make a large banner with  $1+1=3$  in the middle and words from today's lesson around the edges and hang on the classroom wall or in areas of the church or learning area. Make sure children have printed today's Bible verse on their banner in the area of their choice.

### JESUS BADGE OR BUTTON:

Children can be given supplies to make a round circle to write, JESUS AND ME IS A MAJORITY, or  $1+1=3$ , or today's Bible verse. Tape or hot glue a safety pin to the back for children to wear on their shirt. Children will enjoy coloring their button or badge as well.

### FOLD OUT CHILDREN:

Children can fold a piece of construction paper 4 times and then trace and cut out the outline of a person - without cutting on the folded areas so that the 'children-cutout' will be hooked together when unfolded. Tell children to make sure there are 3 children hooked together to remind them of today's lesson and Bible verse. Children can add faces and buttons on 2 cut outs and write JESUS in bright colors on the 3rd cutout.

### FINGERPRINTS X 3:

Give children ink pads and construction paper with today's Bible verse printed at the top or for children to write on the top of the paper. Then children will make finger prints in groups of 3, all around the piece of paper. Children may, if desired, use a pen or thin marker to add hair, arms, legs and face to their fingerprints.

### STICKERS IN 3:

Children will enjoy working together for a large poster board of stickers. Title the poster board with today's Bible verse. Each child will be given 3 identical stickers to place together on the poster board. They will take turns going to the board to place their stickers in one area and trying to recite today's Bible verse. Then the next child will place their stickers in another area and recite the Bible verse. Continue for all children to have their turn.

### SING A SONG:

I HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW JESUS; JESUS LOVES ME; JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN

### SHARE A SNACK:

Give the children 3 lollipops or other such candies or pencils, etc, that could be tied together with a string or ribbon and handed out to children as they leave the classroom.

Song: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

Words and Music (pdf)

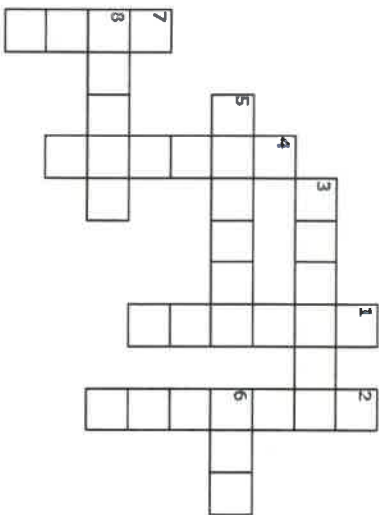
MP3 Accompaniment Track

Song: "Jesus Loves Me"

Words and Music (pdf)

MP3 Accompaniment Track

# Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
3. A male parent; a term used to address God
  5. A female who has the same parents as another person
  6. The number that follows one (1)
  8. To have the same opinion as another person
- DOWN**
1. An organization that follows the teaching of Jesus
  2. A male who has the same parents as another person
  4. To give attention to a person who is speaking
  7. What a person is known by and called

|         |        |        |       |
|---------|--------|--------|-------|
| BROTHER | SISTER | FATHER | AGREE |
| LISTEN  | CHURCH | TWO    | NAME  |



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# Children's Worship Bulletin

*One Plus One Equals Three*

Matthew 18:15-20

## Word Search Puzzle

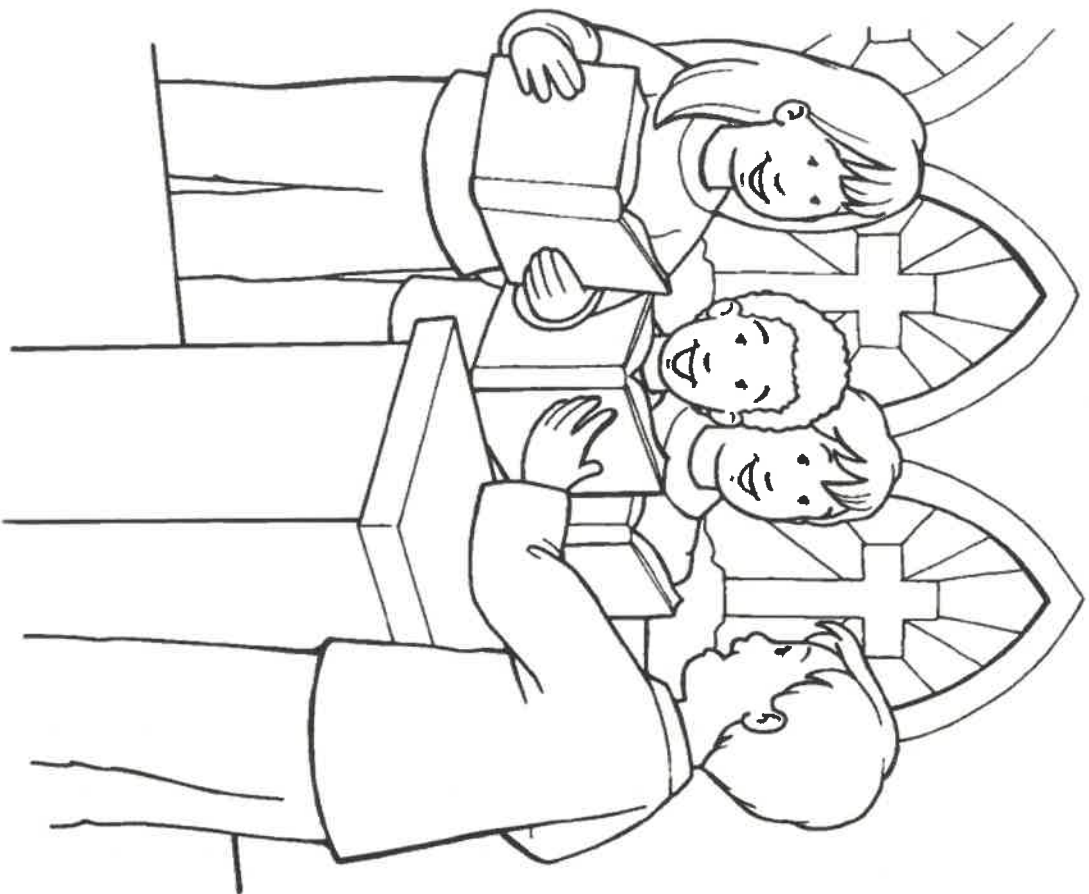
K U H E A V E N K L H R M I K  
 C N E X G L I S T E N E R I L  
 T U A S Y L O O S E Q E A J E  
 O V S M Z R A Q X G T N T Z Z  
 R G U X E C Q W G S O Y E W F  
 B C O Y L H C H I Z F Y E D O  
 U G H E X H L S D X W D A T W  
 L B R O T H E R K N M I M W H  
 S G L C Y E K F A T H E R O S  
 Q M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

|         |        |        |        |        |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| REFUSE  | FATHER | HEAVEN | FAULT  | CHURCH |
| NAME    | BIND   | TWO    | GATHER | EARTH  |
| BROTHER | LOOSE  | SISTER | AGREE  | LISTEN |

Your Church's Name  
Address  
City, State



# Coloring Page



Let's praise Jesus!

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# Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for each number to solve the coded word.

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

- 12-17-25-15-11-22-17 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4-16-4-15-22-17 \_\_\_\_\_
- 20-16-4-15-22-2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 26-9-17-22-22 \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-16-2-7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 22-26-17-15-11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 20-25-25-4-22 \_\_\_\_\_
- 11-22-26-5-22-2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 9-26-15-11-22-17 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-26-21-22 \_\_\_\_\_

|       |        |         |        |        |
|-------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| LOOSE | EARTH  | BROTHER | AGREE  | HEAVEN |
| BIND  | SISTER | GATHER  | LISTEN | NAME   |



For where two or three come together in my name,  
 there am I with them."  
 Matthew 18:20 (NIV)

