

The Preposition IN (chapters 5 & 6): Envelopes

I Am IN Christ; He is IN Me

This object lesson is to help show our union with the Triune God because of our faith in and union with our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the 2nd Person of the Trinity. This exercise dovetails nicely with chapters 5 & 6 Of *The With-ness of our God* -- Me IN Christ and Christ IN Me.

Materials:

You will need **3 envelopes** of differing sizes so they fit inside one another:

- Largest is gold
- Medium is red
- Smallest is white

You will also need **3 index cards** of different colors that can fit into the white envelope...perhaps, yellow, red (or pink), and violet (or blue).

The Lesson:

First, take the **WHITE envelope**, which represents **YOU**, a believer.

Write your name in the middle of the envelope:

You are a new creation in Christ – read & write up in the corner of the envelope these references:

2 Corinthians 5:17, 21 ESV -- *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come... For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Galatians 3:27 ESV -- *For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

Next, take the **CARDS**. Each of them represents a Person of the **Trinity**. Write the name of each in the corner of the prospective card along with the references:

[The colors are not critical. I tried to be somewhat symbolic, but do the best you can with what is available]

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www.abranchinthevine.com

jan@abranchinthevine.co

Father (white or yellow)

The Father lives in me! (cf 1 John 4:12-13)

Romans 8:11 -- *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.* [cf Acts 2:24)

Son (red or pink)

Christ is in me (cf Colossians 1:27)

Romans 8:10 -- *If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness*

Spirit (violet or blue)

The Holy Spirit indwells me. (cf 1 Cor 6:19)

Romans 8:9 -- *However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.*

Be sure to place all the cards in the white envelope:

The Triune God, Father, Son, & Holy Spirit, dwell IN you!

Now for the envelopes, take the **RED** envelope, which represents Christ, the **SON**.

Write "Jesus Christ, the Son of God" in the middle of the red envelope.

1 Cor 1:30 -- But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

John 10: 28 -- and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

Put the white envelope into the red envelope:

You are in Christ the Son!

Then, the largest (gold) envelope represents the **Father**.

Write "the Father" in the middle of the gold envelope.

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John 10:29-30 -- My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.

Put the red envelope into the large gold envelope.

You are in Christ Who is IN the Father and therefore you are IN the Father.

Last, take the gold seal. Write **Holy Spirit** on it and also Ephesians 1:13

Ephesians 1:13 – In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,

You have been sealed with the Spirit of God!

To summarize:

The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit of God...the Triune God is IN you! Think about that. What empowering! What intimacy! All with the God of the universe!

And you are in the Son and the Father...and sealed with the Spirit! What security and abundance!

He is Everything, and I am united with Him!