

## **TRIPLE PLAY**

**Scripture Reading:** Read 1 Peter 1

One of the most exciting defensive plays in baseball is the triple play, the rare act of making three outs during the same continuous play. What makes it rare is that a triple play requires at least two runners already on base, no outs, an alert infield, and a batted ball hit in such a way that it can be fielded quickly and flawlessly so that three base runners can be put out. While an unassisted triple play is possible (just one player is involved in securing three outs), most triple plays involve three infielders. Typically, it occurs when there are men on first and second and the batter hits the ball to the shortstop or third baseman. The runner heading to third is forced out or tagged out for the first out. The ball is thrown to second base for a force play leading to the second out and, finally, the ball is thrown to first to throw out the batter for the third out. Three players each doing their part together produce the triple play.

According to the apostle Peter, three players were involved in our salvation as well: Father, Son and Holy Spirit: *“To God's elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood...”*

**The Father:** He initiated the work. Out of his infinite wisdom and grace, he chose to provide salvation for lost sinners. He so loved the world that he sent his Son.

**The Son:** In obedience to the Father, the Son humbled himself, laid aside the glories of heaven, and came to earth as a baby in a manger. He lived a sinless life, taught us about His Father, healed the sick, cast out demons and offered his life on the cross for our sins. His blood covered our sin and opened the door for us to come back to the Father.

**The Spirit:** The Holy Spirit applied the work of Christ to our lives, washed us clean, sealed us, and confirmed our adoption into God's family. He then began the work of transforming our lives into the image of Jesus so that we obey Christ's teachings.

Triple Play! Father to Son to the Holy Spirit. Each player doing their part to get us out...not in the inning of a baseball game but out of a life of sin and eternal judgment. God's triple play rescues us when we could not save ourselves.

**Action Step & Prayer Focus:** Are you a Christian? Have you ever experienced God's triple play in your life? If you have, then rejoice in God's goodness to you and revel in your salvation. If you haven't, then today you're invited to turn from your sin and place your faith in Christ. Pray for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to set you free.

**Take-a-way:** *God's triple play rescues us from a life of sin and judgment and frees us to win the game of life.*