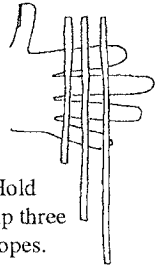


# The Three Amigos

**Material** - Ropes are approximately 7.5", 12" and 18". Any length will do as long as you maintain these general proportions. Medium rope equals length of short and long ropes looped together.



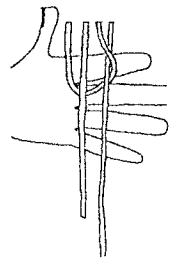
**Movement** - Individual ropes appear to become equal lengths, form a cross and finally return to original lengths.



Hold up three ropes.

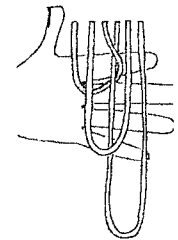
**Message** - *All* are sinners and *all* are separated from God. But God loves *all* of us equally and Christ died to save *everyone*.

I'd like to introduce you to my three friends —. Want to meet them? Sure you do! I have a question to ask each of them that you might be interested in so listen up. This first one is Mr. Little Sinner. The next is Mr. Medium Sinner. Who do you suppose this last one is? Right on, Mr. Big Sinner!



Hold up short rope.

*Mr Little Sinner* — what would happen to you if you died today? I mean, where would you go? What's that? You say you're so good you'd go right to heaven. You what? You pay your taxes and love your wife and kids. You're religious! You're confident that God will just take you straight to heaven! Wow, what a deal!!



Well, some people think like this. They feel so special, so exceptional that God can hardly wait for them to arrive.

*Mr Medium Sinner* —, where would you go if you died today? I hope you don't but it could happen, and it will for thousands around the world today. You're what? Not as confident as the last guy. You're not sure? No, of course I know you're not such a bad guy

Hold up medium rope.

but you don't always do the right thing you say. You've been known to swear and have the occasional unkind thought. You're just not sure whether you'll go up or down, heaven or hell?

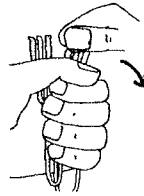
To be honest this is the way most people seem to think. Their guilty conscience prevents them from being sure of heaven and yet they hold out a hope that God won't reject them altogether. They're just not sure what will happen.

*Mr Big Sinner* —, where will you...? To hell you say. Straight to hell! How can you be so...? You don't care about God or others. You don't even like me!?! Your philosophy is "Look out for number one!", and you're always number one? You live by the golden rule: "do it to others before they do it to you!" and "If it feels good, do it!" And besides, all your mates are going to hell and you want to stick together... What's that, a bit of a party around the fire?!?

Well, there's a lot of people around that live this way. And some would even boast about their allegiance to satan and demons.

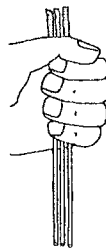
Here's a question for you. Which of these three --- does God love the most? And, another one...which one has the best chance of actually getting to heaven?

We all have our ideas and opinions but the only thing that really counts here is what God says about our three friends. And He says clearly in His Word, the Bible, that — everyone is the same in His eyes! We've all sinned and fallen short of His standard of righteousness. We've all failed repeatedly to please Him with our thoughts, words and actions. Some are "better sinners than others", but we're all sinners! — However, He wants us to know that we are all equally loved and special to Him. He created us all and loves us all. The most practical demonstration of His love for us, for you, was His sending Jesus Christ to pay for your sin by His



Hold up long rope.

Hold up all three ropes, one at a time.

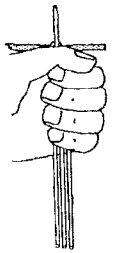


Three ropes are now equal lengths, the crossover hidden in hand.



death on the cross —. That was an act of love on your behalf so that you can personally experience God's forgiveness.

So — whoever you identified with at the beginning you can learn something here. For all you Little Sinner — you need to know that no matter how good you are you can't get to heaven apart from a personal faith in Jesus Christ. Even the little sin you've done means you too need a Savior. You Medium Sinners — need to know that if you'll humble yourselves and trust in Jesus Christ you can be absolutely confident of eternal life. God's Word promises salvation to each one who personally trusts in Jesus. And you Big Sinners —. You might not love God but you need to know that He loves you. You too can be cleansed and forgiven of all you've done. You too can be sure of God's love and the gift of eternal life when you repent of your sin and turn to the Lord Jesus.



Ropes in shape of Cross. Short rope stretched through as cross-bar.

Roll ropes into ball. Pull out one at a time and give appropriate summary.

