



# THE *P*REEMINENCE of CHRIST

## DIGGING DEEPER:

*Read Colossians 1:15-29*

Suggested: Complete the activity portion first, then this discussion can be a continuation of those activities.

One of the great truths that comes out of this portion of the bible is the deity of Jesus. We want to spend some time to really consider what that even means.

- 1) What does the word “deity” mean and how does that impact our view of Jesus?
- 2) Spend some time talking about Jesus being fully man and fully God. Is that even possible?
- 3) If Jesus “IS” God, then what does that mean for us and our relationship with Jesus.

Here is some helpful information for your discussion. In 451 AD, the Chalcedonian Creed was established which has been the standard biblical understanding of Jesus for all the major branches of Christianity. There were five main truths (taken from [desiringgod.org](http://desiringgod.org)):

- 1) Jesus has two natures – He is God and man
- 2) Each nature is full and complete – He is fully God and fully man
- 3) Each nature remains distinct
- 4) Christ is only one Person
- 5) Things that are true of only one nature are nonetheless true of the Person of Christ

While this statement doesn’t make the understanding easy, it can help direct our answers to many of the questions that come out of this portion of the bible. One of the big truths to spend time on with your children is this – because Jesus is God, if we want to know God, then get to know Jesus...they are one and the same.

Finish with a discussion or brainstorm about what we know about Jesus (and therefore God), his character, what was important to him, what he taught, etc.

## ACTIVITY:

*Read Colossians 1:15-20*

Invisible/Visible:

**Activity:** (You’ll need a TV) Explain that while we are surrounded by television signals, we cannot see them. In order to see this signal we need a TV to show it to us. Different channels are on different frequencies. Demonstrate the TV set to the children.

**Application:** A TV in some ways represents Christ. God is all around us but we cannot see him. But Christ came and brought the message of God to all the World in a visible form that people could see.

**Materials:** A balloon, yeast, sugar, water, a glass jar, a funnel, and an empty glass drink bottle.

**The Experiment:** Say: Can something invisible have visible results? Mix 1 tablespoon of yeast, 1 teaspoon of sugar, and 1 cup warm (not hot) water in the glass jar. Use a funnel to pour the mixture into the bottle. Ask kids to hypothesize about what’ll happen to the balloon when you stretch it over the bottleneck. Then watch as the balloon inflates.

**Scientific Facts:** Air is made of different gases, including carbon dioxide. Carbon dioxide gas released by the growing yeast is lighter than other gases in the bottle, so it rises to the top and inflates the balloon.

**Talk About It:** Ask. Was your guess correct? Is it easy or difficult to understand something you can’t see, such as the carbon dioxide? Explain. How would you explain how carbon dioxide works? How would you explain our invisible God to someone? Read the Scripture. Is it easy or difficult to have faith in a God you can’t see? Why or why not? How can you explain your faith in God so others understand?