



Week: 3 – Did Jesus claim to be God?

Date: April 25, 2021

Scripture: Colossians 1:15-23

Big Idea: Some say that Jesus is just a good man, a wise teacher, or just a gentle healer. But Jesus claimed to be much more than this. He claimed to be One with God, God in the flesh. This is quite a claim! Who would claim such a thing except for a liar or a lunatic? Yet, one *could* make such a claim if he truly was God, the Lord of creation. Is the evidence to support that Jesus was truly God? When we look at fulfilled prophesy, the answer is convincing.

Video: https://youtu.be/e-gRJ4K7v_o

Preparation: Mom and/or dad, take time to prepare well for this spiritual experience with your son or daughter and perhaps their friends. Proper preparation includes reading through this guide, setting up a comfortable environment, preparing the videos, materials (*everyone will need a Bible, pen and notebook/journal*) and snacks, and prayer. It also includes giving your participants time to prepare as well. Let them know in advance what you want to do and then remind them a few minutes before your start time so that they are ready too.

Interactive game / activity: Guess Who?

- Print off this page, cut out each name in the chart below, and place them in a bowl or hat, or face-down on the table. Then, take turns drawing names and describing them to your partner. See how many names you can guess in just one minutes, then switch places. If you have multiple players, you can either make teams, or compete for who can guess the most celebrities.

Kanye West	Cristiano Ronaldo	Lebron James	Roger Federer	Lionel Messi
Dwayne Johnson	Ellen Degeneres	Stephen Curry	Ariana Grande	Gordon Ramsey
Ryan Reynolds	The Jonas Bros	Tiger Woods	Taylor Swift	Kanye West
Ed Sheeran	J.K. Rowling	Shawn Mendes	Marshmallo	Simon Cowell
Billie Eilish	Kim Kardashian	Will Smith	Tom Brady	Jackie Chan
Katy Perry	Lady Gaga	Oprah Winfrey	Serena Williams	Gal Gadot
Scarlett Johansson	Margot Robbie	Emma Watson	Zendaya	Lauren Jauregui

Activity Debrief: (This would be a good time to pull out the snacks)

- How would you describe Jesus? What words would you use with unchurched friends?

Video Teaching: Apologetics – [Did Jesus claim to be God?](#)

Set-up: (Say to the group)

Jesus is the most famous person to ever live, but he's probably also the most misunderstood person as well. Was he a wise teacher? A good moral example? Was he just a prophet of Israel? Was he just an ordinary man that took on legendary status as time passed? Was he God? Before we watch this week's teaching video, take a minute to think about who or what you think Jesus really was.

Play the video [HERE](#).



Ice Breakers:

- If you could be famous for any one thing, what would you want to be famous for? Why?

Discussion Starters:

- Based on the Bible stories retold in today's video, did Jesus claim to be God? If so, what were the stories that support that claim? (*Caiaphas at Jesus' trial, Jesus' claim to be "son of man," Jesus' declaration that "I and the Father are one," forgiving sins, Jesus declaration of "I AM."*)
- The video also described a philosophical argument for Jesus divinity (being God). Within this argument there were four "L" words. Summarize this argument. (Legend, Liar, lunatic, Lord)
- Finally, the video described Old Testament, Messianic prophecies that are literally fulfilled in Jesus. Do you remember some of the prophecies mentioned? Name a few.
- How convincing are the fulfilled prophecies in Jesus? Think about the odds of these fulfillments. (One in 10¹⁷, or one in 100 million-billion, or like choosing one coin out of Texas, or 1X10¹⁵⁷)

Scripture: Read Colossians 1:15-23 as a group and consider the questions below.

*Christ is the **visible image of the invisible God**. He **existed before anything** was created and is **supreme over all creation**, ¹⁶for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. ¹⁷He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.*

¹⁸Christ is also the **head of the church**, which is his body. He is **the beginning**, **supreme** over all who rise from the dead. So, he is **first** in everything. ¹⁹**For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ**, ²⁰and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross. ²¹This includes you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. ²²Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault. ²³But you must continue to believe this truth and stand firmly in it. Don't drift away from the assurance you received when you heard the Good News.

Digging Deeper: (you may need to re-read the passage after asking these questions.)

- How does the Apostle Paul **describe** Jesus in Col. 1? What has he done? What stands out?
- What do these titles and actions mean to you? Why is this important today for you and me? What are the results of Jesus identity and actions for us? (forgiveness, peace, closeness, etc)
- According to Colossians 1, what should our response be to Jesus as our redeemer God? (v. 23)
- What do you think it means/looks like to "continue to believe... and stand firm?"

Application:

- What difference does it make in your life to know and believe this about Jesus? How are you different because of what you believe about Jesus? How is your life different?



Closing activity & prayer: choose 1 of the following options to close your time together.

- SINGING: Sing [Way Maker](https://youtu.be/EXQGTInPpZU) by Leeland (<https://youtu.be/EXQGTInPpZU>)
- JOURNALING: Reflect on the words of Colossians 1:19-20 and what it might mean in your life now. Focus specifically on the idea of peace and where you experience it and need it right now.
 - *“For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, ²⁰and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross.”*
- SCRIPTURE: Meditate on, memorize, and make this verse your prayer: Colossians 1:15
 - *“Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation”*
- PRAYING: Close your group time in prayer for one another. Share prayer requests and assign partners to pray for one another throughout the week.