

Objective: All in your household submit to Christ as Lord of all.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: Paul likely wrote his letter to the believers at Colossae around AD 61-62 while he was under house arrest in Rome. He wrote to counter false teaching and to encourage growth toward Christian maturity.

Bible Basics: Memorize Colossians 1:16b-17 with family members.

Read the Word: Colossians 1:9-23

Disciple Your Kids

Discuss how Jesus is more important than everything else in the universe and that we should do whatever He says.



Key Truth: Believers Keep Growing in Knowing and Living Out God's Will (Colossians 1:9-14)

- Paul prayed that the Colossians would grow in the knowledge of God's will and in spiritual wisdom and understanding. He wanted them to live in ways worthy of the Lord, producing good fruit for Christ (verses 9-10).
- The Colossians' good work was to include patience that would come through God's power. God's work in them produced joy and gratitude because God had freed them from darkness and brought them into the kingdom of light. This was done through Christ who redeemed and forgave us (verse 11-14).



Key Truth: Christ Is Preeminent Over All Creation (Colossians 1:15-20)

- Jesus was the *image*, the exact portrayal of the invisible God. He had no beginning just like God the Father. He was the *first-born* in that He has rights over all creation. He created it all and holds it all together. He rose from the dead to reign supreme over everything that had been created (verses 15-18).
- God was pleased to have His complete fullness dwell in Christ and to reconcile sinful people to Himself through Christ alone. In Christ, God came to live among us and to heal the breach our sin created (verses 19-20).



Key Truth: Christ Died to Reconcile Us to God (Colossians 1:21-23)

- The Colossians had been enemies of God in both thought and deed. However, reconciliation with God through Christ causes God to see us in a new way as holy, blemish free, and beyond accusation. In God's sight, Christ's merits have become ours. We are clothed in His righteousness. Now we must continue in faith, moment by moment (verses 21-23).

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- What do we mean when we say Christ is preeminent and supreme over all?
- What does it mean that we should live in ways that are worthy of Christ as Lord?
- **How can we grow in the knowledge of God's will?**
- What does it mean to be reconciled to God?
- How did Christ's death make it possible for us to be reconciled to God?
- In what area of life could you more fully submit to Christ's lordship this week?
- **How do the five truths you learned about Jesus help you trust He is above all?**
- **How can you use those five truths to praise Him?**

Everyday Extras

Ask each family member to secretly think of a person everyone in the family knows. Take turns describing that person without telling his or her name. Give one clue at a time and see how long it takes people to guess the person. Read the apostle Paul's description of Jesus in Colossians 1:15–20. Could there be any mistake about the Person he was describing? No! Jesus is the only One who measures up. Video yourselves as each member of the family takes turns reading the phrases in Colossians 1 that describe Jesus and post the video for your friends and families to see.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned about the missionaries, Paul and Barnabas. They traveled and told others about God's Word. A Roman leader wanted to know what God's Word said. When his helper tried to stop him, God blinded the helper. The Roman leader saw God's power and believed in Him. We can tell others about God's Word because **The Bible Is for Everyone.**