Jesus the visible image of the invisible God

How do we know who God is? We get the opportunity to know who God is by the person of Jesus Christ. “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” - John 1:14 TNIV

The Message - John 1:1-5
The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word. The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one. 3-5 Everything was created through him; nothing—not one thing!—came into being without him. What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by. The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out.

The Message - Colossians 1:15-17
We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created. For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels—everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment. And when it comes to the church, he organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body.

TNIV - John 1:1-5
1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

TNIV - Colossians 1:15-17
15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
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Thoughts on this passage:
These verses depict the Holy Trinity of the Father, Son (the Word), and Spirit in divine community before the World was created. How awesome! It is specifically important to know that while on Earth, Jesus was both fully man and fully God. We know Jesus is God in the flesh from John 1:14 and Colossians 1:15-17- He is creator, He is life, He is ruler, He is Powerful.

Where kids are at:
Students may believe God is a distant, mystical creature that we can’t know much about. In all actuality, we know a lot about whom God is and His purpose for our life. We can know these things by looking at the character of Jesus Christ. How did Jesus relate to people? What did He do and say while here in Earth? He is the direct representation of God. So if we know Jesus, we know God.

We look at this Son (Jesus Christ) and see God's original purpose in everything created.

Campaigner Questions:
1. What is one word that describes you best?
2. Though we have never seen God, how would you describe Him?
3. What do these verses reveal to you about who Jesus is?
4. Describe the relationship between Jesus and God. How are they similar?

Media to use:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1eITfhOwyTU
Like father like son.
How a son mimics his father.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iiA_fVoqe04
video Use on the John 1 text.