

**What Child Is This?  
A Message To You  
Hebrews 1:1-3**

**Getting Started:**

1) Real or artificial Christmas Trees? Argue your case.

**Digging Deeper:**

*The Big Idea:* Hebrews chapter one refers to the first Christmas in a number of places (e.g., vs.6). It is designed, along with the entire book, to help us get clear on who Jesus is. True life depends on this clarity. In our time together, we learn that Jesus is God's special message to us.

2) Read Hebrews 1:1-3. God has broadcast his message to people in many ways.

a) Name as many forms of ancient and modern multimedia as you can.

b) Name the different ways God has used to communicate to people.

3) God communicated to people in a lot of different ways and at different times. Attempts at communication suggest a desire for relationship. Discuss why, and what this suggests about God's multimedia to us?

4) God never spoke to people directly. He "muffled" his voice to get his message through. Read Exodus 19:16-21 and Hebrews 12:18-21.

a) What happens when God removes some of the mufflers from his voice and reveals his glory?

b) God muffles his glory from people in a couple of ways in the Old Testament. Name a few.

5) You can usually tell the condition of a person's relationship by examining the quality of the communication. When God speaks more directly to people, they can't stand it.

a) Give some examples of when you couldn't stand the voice of another, and it was really because of you and not them.

b) The Israelites might have blamed God for why his voice seemed intolerable. What reasons might they have given?

c) Why can God's voice seem intolerable to us?

6) The passage tells us that Jesus is God's 'ultimedia.' He is God's radiating glory and voice. Jesus is God's fullest and final message to us in a human person.

a) Where does the passage say this, and compare this with John 1:1 and 14.

b) Does this address any of the reasons the Israelites or we might have given for why God's voice seemed intolerable (see 5b)?

c) Discuss what an average day was like for Jesus. What message should people have heard from God through his life?

**Putting It Into Practice:**

7) There are a number of things that people find intolerable to listen to from the Bible? Name a few. How does Jesus (as understood in Hebrews 1:1-3) help to change that?