



## LOW-ENERGY GAME

### Moving Memory

[10 min]

#### Supplies

- 16 large, opaque plastic cups (all the same color)
- 8 pairs of objects that fit under your upside-down plastic cups (such as cotton balls, coins, pompoms, paper clips, googly eyes, clothespins, balls, and plastic bottle caps)
- upbeat music (optional)

#### Play a 3-D Version of Memory

Say: **In our Bible story, Moses heard a lot from God, and one of the most important things he learned is that God doesn't change.**

**Never, ever changing makes God special because we're used to seeing things that *do* change. Let's see what that's like with a game.**

- Have everyone gather in a circle around the supplies you've gathered.
- Allow everyone to see the objects as you place one under each upside-down cup.
- Move the cups around to mix up where the objects are. Then invite a child to be the first to try to find a pair by lifting two cups.
- After the first cup is picked up, say: **Change up!** Shuffle the cups again before allowing the second cup to be chosen.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.
- Move around the circle clockwise, allowing each child to try to find a matching pair—shuffling the cups between the first and second cup choice. If a match is found, pull those objects and cups from the game and then continue.
- When all the pairs have been found or everyone has had a try, round one ends.
- For round two, do the same as round one, except this time you'll shuffle the cups only once, at the beginning of the round. Make a promise that you won't move the cups this time, and keep your promise.

#### Talk About It

Ask: • **Which round of the game did you like more, and why?**

• **What was it like when I kept changing where the cups were?**

Say: **When I kept changing the cups in the first round, it made it harder to find matches. You got confused about where things were, and you couldn't trust that everything was where you remembered. Change happens a lot in our lives. It can be confusing, frustrating, and scary, and it can leave us wondering who we can trust.**

Ask: • **Tell about a time something in your life changed but you didn't want it to.** Share an example from your own life to help kids think of their own.

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Say: **God doesn't change.** God is like the second round when the cups didn't change. We may not always be able to fully see who God is, just as we couldn't see under the cups. But we can trust that what we know to be true about him will stay the same. When everything around us is changing, we can trust that **God doesn't change.**



## TALK-ABOUT VIDEO The Burning Bush

[10 min]

### Supplies

- “The Burning Bush” teaching video

### Discuss and Watch “The Burning Bush”

Say: Today we’re learning that God doesn’t change, so we trust him when we’re unsure.

Ask: • **Tell about a time you weren’t confident you could do something well.** Share your own example first.

Say: **Let’s watch a video about how Moses learned God could do big things through him...even though he didn’t feel confident.**

Watch “The Burning Bush.”

Ask: • **Put yourself in Moses’ place. How do you think you’d feel about what God asked you to do?**

- **What did the signs show you about who God is?**

- **What evidence or signs have you seen that show you God doesn’t change and you can trust him?**

Say: God doesn’t change. If he could do big things through Moses, even though Moses didn’t think he was right for the job, God can still do big things through people—even us. God gave Moses signs to help Moses trust him, and God shows us all the time that we, too, can trust him.



## DEEPER BIBLE What Would Life Be Like if God Changed?

[15 min]

### Supplies

- Bibles
- foam ball
- chairs
- whiteboard or poster board
- dry-erase markers or regular markers
- river rocks (1 per child)
- modeling dough

### Easy Prep

- Use chairs to make goal posts on either side of the room.

### Play a Game

Say: **We're going to play a game of soccer.**

Have kids form two teams. Review the rules of soccer: Kids can't touch the ball with their hands and must try to get the ball in the opposing goal. The goalie is the only one who may use his or her hands.

After about 30 seconds of playing, start changing the rules, announcing the changes by calling out a kid who's broken a new rule. Here are some example rules:

- I switched the goals; you just made a point for the other team.
- The ball is not supposed to touch the ground.
- You can't touch the ball with your feet; only with your hands.
- You only get a point when you hit the wall *outside* the goal.
- You're not allowed to run.
- You're not allowed to talk.

After about three minutes of playing, have kids sit down.

Ask: • **What was hard about playing when I kept changing the rules?**

Say: **Sometimes change is good. But there are some things we wouldn't want to change while we were using them. For example, you wouldn't want a parachute to change while you were skydiving or a rope to change while you were rock climbing. You wouldn't want your snow boots to change into flip-flops while you're out in the snow. You'd need to trust that those things would stay the same.**

Ask: • **What are some other things you wouldn't want to change?**

Say: **When something is unchanging, you can trust it! That's why it's so great that God doesn't change. But what would life be like if God *did* change? Let's dig in to that.**

### Complete the Sentence

Ask: • **Call out some words that finish this sentence: God is...** As kids share words, write them on a whiteboard or poster board.

Say: **Now pick one word on our list that you're especially thankful is true about God. Pause. Think about what life would be like if that one went away...or if it was only *sometimes* true. For example, what if God was loving...sometimes. Other times? He doesn't really like you.**

Have kids form trios and talk about what life would be like if the attribute of God they picked changed.

Read Hebrews 13:8.

Say: **Let me read that again, but this time, I'll take out the phrase "the same." Silently think of your word from our list, putting that word into the sentence. So if I chose "loving," it would sound like "Jesus Christ is *loving* yesterday, today, and forever."**

Read the passage again, omitting the phrase "the same" and pausing.

Ask: • **How do you feel when you hear that?**

Say: **Boy, I'm glad that God is *always* loving. We can trust that he will never change! And he's *always* powerful and *always* forgiving! God doesn't change, and that's a good thing. Let's look at some Scripture that helps us remember that God doesn't change.**

### Dig Deeper

Give each child a river rock and a similarly sized lump of modeling dough. Have kids make rock shapes from their modeling dough.

Say: **You have two rocks. One can change, and one can't. Try to make both your rocks change into other shapes.** Allow time.

Say: **One way the Bible describes God is that he's a rock. You can easily change your modeling dough into all kinds of things. But you can't change your rock! Let's see what the Bible says about that.**

Form two groups. Have one group read Psalm 18:1-2 and the other read Psalm 62:5-7. Then have each group summarize the verses for the other group.

Ask: • **How is God like a rock?**

• **Think of a situation in which you really need to trust God. How is God your rock in that situation?** Share your own example first, and then have kids share in pairs.

Say: **God doesn't change. Take your rock home to remind you that God is our rock. He's steady and unchanging. We can count on him to be the same loving, powerful, personal God who met with Moses at the bush!**

Collect the modeling dough.



## LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

### Surrender

[5 min]

#### Choose a Spot and Pray

Say: **When we're not sure we're good enough, we can trust that God is. He showed his power through Moses, and God doesn't change. He's still powerful enough to work through regular people like us...even though we try to make excuses.**

- Read the list of excuses Moses made:
  - I'm not the right person for the job.
  - I'm not close enough to God.
  - I might look stupid.
  - I'm not good enough. I don't have what it takes.
  - I just don't want to.
- For each one, point to a corner. (The fifth one will be the center of the room.)
- Have kids choose a place in the room that best represents what makes them feel unsure about themselves and what they can do for God.
- Kids will pray with others in their corner, giving their concerns to God.

#### Pray

Pray: **Dear God, thank you that even when we're unsure about what we can do, you never change, and we can trust you. Because you're the same powerful God all the time, you can do amazing things through imperfect people like us. Help us trust you because you don't change. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.



## ACTIVITY PAGES WITH A POINT No Changing

[10 min]

### Supplies

- “God Is I Am” Activity Page
- pencils
- crayons
- orange highlighters (optional)

### Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: **Moses saw a bush that didn’t change—even though it was on fire! And God spoke to him from that bush as a reminder that God doesn’t change. God called himself “I Am” because he always is who he is!**

**Let’s see if you can find the pictures that *didn’t* change.**

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will find the pictures that didn’t change from each original.

Ask: • **How would you describe the changes in these pictures?**

• **What are some things about you that have changed just in small ways?**

• **What’s one thing about God you’re glad won’t change—even in a small way?**

Say: **God is awesome. He’s loving, he forgives us, and he’s all-powerful. And we can trust that God doesn’t change. When everything else in life feels unsure, we can trust in God.**

If there’s extra time, kids can color their pages.

Answers: Bush #3, Fire #2, Sandals #1

### Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: **God told Moses his name is “I Am.” It was a name that shows God doesn’t change. Moses still had a hard time trusting God to help him free the Israelites from Egypt, but we can trust God. Let’s color a picture of Moses talking with God, who spoke from a bush.**

Allow time for kids to color. If you have highlighters, kids can use those for the flames on the bush.

When kids finish coloring, three-hole-punch their pages and put them into binders, if desired.