



NORTHVIEW  
**STUDENTS**  
5th/6th grade

DATE(S)

October 1-2, 2022

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

He Is – Week 3 (Unchanging)

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

God is unchanging.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

Hebrews 13:8

Luke 2:49

Psalm 102:25-27

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements



THE OVERVIEW

# OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

## LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

### Over-Under-Equal

Each slide gives you a category or a question with a number. The object of the game is to figure out if it's OVER, UNDER, or EQUAL to the number listed. This game can be done elimination style with everyone participating (for example...you can pick three areas of the room for students to stand in to indicate their answer and you keep eliminating those who guessed incorrectly each round). This will get the kids moving and keep the game going at a fast pace. Whoever is left is the winner! If everybody is already out in the earlier rounds, let everyone back in and keep going until there's one student left (figure out your own tie-breaker)! **\*\*\*Make sure to test the technology before playing the game!!**

## OPENING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

### ACTIVITIES

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week?

What has been the biggest change you've experienced in school this year?

Are you ok with change happening or do you find it difficult? Why?

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship/singing.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING



# LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

## THE MESSAGE

**He Is – Week 3 (Unchanging)**  
**October 1-2, 2022**

Many of us are very resistant to change. We want things to stay the same as they've always been. Things like family traditions during holidays, or vacation spots with our family, a favorite meal on our birthday, our houses/neighborhoods, our friends...we don't want these things to change! I mean, think about it...how many of you order the same thing at a restaurant over and over without ever getting something different? It's dependable and we don't want to change!

**(Teacher's Note: Talk about something humorous or light-hearted about an area where you were or are currently resistant to change)**

Here's a couple funny stories about change I heard recently. **(Teacher's Note: Show Noah Kalina message clip during this part of the script)** A few years ago, a man by the name of Noah Kalina decided he was going to take picture of himself every day for 6 years! He took all of the photos and put them in a video editing software, added some music to the background, and sped up the photos so that he could show 10 of them in 1 second. He put the video on YouTube and it now has over 26 million views. As the video moves along, you could see some changes to his hair, face, he got more freckles...he even got a few more wrinkles. In 6 years, which really isn't a long time, his appearance had changed quite a bit.

**(Teacher's Note: Show teacher's yearbook photos)** The second one is about a teacher at a school who wore the same outfit in every school picture for 40 years in a row. Here are the pictures to prove it! Now listen – I'm sure all of us have a favorite outfit to wear, but this guy has commitment levels in another stratosphere to pull this off! Serious props!

Change is happening to us all the time...sometimes, we aren't even aware of it. We're just living life! I mean, think about this...what did you look like 6 years ago? Pretty much all of you were either in kindergarten or getting ready to start kindergarten. I would say quite a bit has changed since then, wouldn't you? Yet, many of us wanted to grow up and be older...and that required change. Change is beneficial to us! It would probably be hard for us to imagine what it was like before we learned how to walk, talk, read, or just have gums instead of teeth!

However, there are others of us that don't want anything to change just like that teacher! We would wear our favorite outfit, eat our favorite food, watch our favorite movie, or listen to our favorite music EVERY SINGLE DAY and not get tired of it. At some point, though, even those things can change. It's inevitable. This illustration sets up something more important – As Christians, we can know for sure there is one thing that is unchanging, and that is God Himself.

# THE MESSAGE

Our third week of this “He Is” series is going to focus on how God is an unchanging God. Even though we change and the world around us is changing, God always stays the same. Here is our **THP (Take Home Point)** for today!

## God is unchanging!

Our **Take Home Point** today is based on a verse from the Bible in the New Testament. It comes from Hebrews 13:8, which says, “*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*” That’s actually a great verse to memorize to remind all of us that God is unchanging. In fact, I would encourage you to memorize that verse this week to simply remind you that in a world of change, Jesus is the only constant. He’s the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Now, some of you might be thinking, “Well, why is that such a big deal? Why is it so important that God is unchanging?” I actually think it’s really important for you and me because it means that the message and person of Jesus Christ is the only thing in our world that has never changed. Think about that! Out of everything in this world – every person, everything in nature, everything that has been invented – only Jesus Christ has remained consistently the same.

In the New Testament, John 1:14 says this: “*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.*” We see this truth come to be at Christmas when God became a baby and was given the name, Jesus. He was God’s Son and yet still God Himself. I know...confusing! Even then, He was still God – but now He was God in the flesh; the Savior of the world.

Jesus worshiped God, His Father, from a very young age. There’s one instance in the New Testament in Luke chapter 2 where Jesus gets lost on a journey from Jerusalem. Yes, EVEN Jesus got distracted and got lost and freaked his parents out! He goes to the temple courts where the other religious leaders were at and He started hanging out with them, asking them questions, and when Mary and Joseph find him, he says in Luke 2:49: “*Why were you searching for me?*” he asked. “*Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?*”

Jesus was quite aware of His purpose on earth and why He came. He wasn’t doing miracles or healing the sick or casting out demons yet; that didn’t come until later in life. However, you could clearly see God’s Spirit at work in Him. He had the ability; it just wasn’t fully realized yet.

Seriously, though, Jesus knew his purpose and he never walked away from it. He lived it out his entire life here on earth. Even at the end of his life when he was being crucified and killed, He was still doing God’s work, by giving his life as a sacrifice for us and praying and forgiving those who were doing it to him.

# THE MESSAGE

Let's take it a step further – God's purpose for our life is also unchanging. We are to tell the whole world about Him. We are to share the message of Jesus Christ with everyone and show, both in word and action, His hope, love, and forgiveness. One of the most AWESOME things about God is that He stays the same: He stays as a perfect God with a perfect love. If that's true, then why would we want Him to change or our purpose to change? There is nothing or no one more trustworthy than a perfect, unchanging God.

In the Old Testament, Psalm 102:25-27 says this: *"In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will never end."*

This verse says God will be the one that lasts forever. Not just Him either – ALL those who trust in Jesus as their Savior will also be with God forever.

Let's bring this to you and me: does life feel like it's constantly changing for you? Maybe it doesn't feel that way and that's ok, but I'm guessing there's at least a few of you who do feel that way. Does it feel like life is out of control? Does it feel like your family is changing, school is changing, your friendships changing? I mean, the group of people you were hanging out with last semester acts like they don't even know your name anymore or your best friend has found a new best friend. Do you sometimes wonder if God even cares about this stuff?

**(Teacher's Note: Share an example from your life where things were in a constant state of change and our unchanging God helped you through that situation)**

Let's look at our **THP (Take Home Point)** one last time: **God is UNCHANGING**. As we do every week, I want to encourage you to have a discussion around this topic. In order for us to grow in our relationship with God, we need to become more and more comfortable with having spiritual conversations; whether that's with our life group, our families, or some other trusted friends and adults. I want you to spend some time considering how our unchanging God can help YOU change to be more like Him and how you can start living out His unchanging purpose for your life. Let's pray! **(Teacher's Note: Pray and then close)**

# CLOSING SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

## CLOSING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

\*\*\*Leader's Note: Make sure to have some Bibles for the students to use.

What was the THP today and why was that important during the message?

Our THP went along with the verse from Hebrews 13:8 in the New Testament where it says that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. How do you think this verse could be encouraging to people?

Let's re-read one of the other main Scripture passages that we focused on today during the message. It's from Psalm 102:25-27 in the Old Testament.

*"In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will never end."*

What is the author of this Psalm trying to tell us? How would you say this verse in your own words?

What is one thing that has changed in your life recently that you wish hadn't changed? How do you think God can use a difficult situation like this to help you?

How will the THP help you to live differently this week? Try to think of a specific example.

How can this group pray for you this week?

### FINAL THOUGHTS

After your group is finished with your discussion questions, close in prayer!

Encourage those students in your group who made first-time decisions or who made re-commitments to follow Jesus today! Tell them that this group is a support system for them and they don't have to do this life alone. If there is a student who makes a first-time commitment to Christ, have them text NVSNEXT to 85379 or fill out a response card so you can capture their information and our staff can follow up with them. Once your group discussion is over, close your group in prayer!



# PREP NEEDS

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## SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
- Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)

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## LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Stupid Video of the Week
- Game slides and/or videos
- Message script
- Message slides

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## AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

- Pro Presenter or Playlister