



Into the Unknown / Week 1

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

God never changes when you're in the unknown.

SCRIPTURE

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8 NLT).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students recognize how change makes them feel, and to encourage them to focus on God, who never changes.

THINK ABOUT THIS

This week sets up the conversation you'll be having about change over the next four weeks. So, as a leader, it's important to pay attention to your students' words

and body language this week. What words are they using to describe change? Are they fidgeting or getting uncomfortable when they talk about it? What examples are they giving when they're asked to talk about change? Are there some students avoiding eye contact or being uncharacteristically quiet? What things are they saying about God? All of these things can give you valuable insight into how they're processing change right now. It can help you understand how they feel about change, what changes they might be experiencing in their lives, and even how they might see God in light of those things.

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here.

DURING GROUP

ICE BREAKER

Make a list of things you know will never change. Come up with as many as you can as a group!

DO THIS (EXPERIENCE 1)

Write "Love Change," "Change is Fine," and "Hate Change," on separate cards and place them in a line (in that order) on the wall with a little space in-between each. Ask your students to stand or place an object next to the card that represents how they feel about change.

DISCUSS THIS

1. When you hear the word "change," what does it make you think about?
2. What's one example of a change a middle schooler might deal with...
 - a. In their family?
 - b. At school?
 - c. In their friend group?
 - d. In their hobbies or interests?
 - e. At church?
3. Why do you think someone could have a hard time when something changes?
4. How do you think God views change?
5. Does knowing that God never changes make you feel any differently about change? Why or why not?

DO THIS (EXPERIENCE 2)

Ask your few to draw an unknown they're facing in their life right now on the provided journal page. As a group, discuss what they drew.

Then, ask your few to write down a prayer on the provided page and silently pray what they wrote. Here, they'll thank God for never changing and ask God to help them through the changes and unknowns in their lives.



DRAW AN UNKNOWN you are facing in your life right now.



WRITE DOWN A PRAYER thanking God for never changing.
Then ask God to help you in the unknown.

