

**Teachers Dig In****Dig In to the Bible**

- Read: Exodus 3:1–4:17
- In This Passage: God appears to Moses in a bush that's on fire but not burning up. God tells Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, where they're slaves. Moses doesn't want to and has a lot of excuses. But God assures him, "I Am Who I Am." God doesn't change; he's the same God today!
- Bible Point: God doesn't change...
- Application: ...so we trust him when we're unsure.
- Summary Verse: "Have you never heard? Have you never understood? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of all the earth. He never grows weak or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding" (Isaiah 40:28).

**Dig Deeper**

- You'll Be Teaching: *God doesn't change.* So often, God in the Bible can seem like a different God from the one in kids' lives today. He can seem bigger, more miraculous, and more powerful. Help kids understand that God doesn't change. The same God who appeared to Moses in a burning bush is present in their lives, ready to do big things through them.
- Think About: How has your view of God changed? What makes that different from God himself changing?

**Dig In to Prayer**

- Pray that God would give kids confidence in who he is, even when they feel unsure.

**Quick Tip**

- If you have kids with disabilities in your class, be sensitive to them during active games and learning experiences. Every effort you make to include each child makes an eternal difference to that person—and to his or her family. Moses may have had a speech impediment, but God sent him to talk to the leader of a country! Help kids see that God doesn't change and there are no limits to what he can do through us.

## This Lesson at a Glance



### OPENING

Preschoolers share about a topic related to the lesson.

#### Supplies

- Bible



### CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY

Preschoolers act out the Bible story and unwrap a crepe paper ball to find surprise objects.

#### Supplies

- Bible
- crepe paper
- 2 toothpicks
- tiny plastic snake or small drawing of a snake
- sticky note
- transparent tape
- red, yellow, orange, and green washable markers
- wet wipe
- small plastic bag of dirt
- red food coloring
- cup of water
- bulletin board paper
- “Crepe Paper Ball Instructions” handout (1 copy)  
(download [here](#))

#### Easy Prep

- Determine an area that can symbolize the “wilderness.” On a sheet of bulletin board paper, draw a large green bush. Hang the bush in the wilderness.
- Use the easy steps found on the “Crepe Paper Ball Instructions” handout to make a crepe paper ball (it’ll take only a couple of minutes).



### LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Preschoolers draw something they’re unsure of, pray about it, and put it in an unchanging container.

#### Supplies

- cookie tin with a lid
- paper
- crayons

*\*Marked supplies are also used in Core Bible Discovery*

Let’s keep kids safe! You can help by using supplies as instructed for only ages 3+, purchasing child-safe items, and being aware of allergy concerns.



## Supplies

- Bible

## Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Just for fun, have preschoolers give a fist bump to four friends.
- Make announcements.
- Introduce new kids.
- Celebrate birthdays by having preschoolers say “snappy mirthgray” (which rhymes with happy birthday).
- Collect the offering.

## Introduce the Lesson

Say: **Today we'll find out that God doesn't change. He's always the same—and that means he's always good! We can trust him. God has a great big love for us, so we don't want him to change. Let's think of some things that change and decide whether we want them to change.**

## Share

- Say: **Sometimes movies and TV shows have things that change, like transformer cars that turn into robots.**
- Ask: • **What are some good things about a car that could change into a robot?** Share one reason *you* think that might be a good change. You might say you could ride in the car and then use the robot arms to reach something high up on a building.
- In leader-led small groups, have preschoolers share what *they* think would be good about a car that could change into a robot. Help children with more ideas, if needed. They might say the robot could walk over a stream but a car can't. They also might say a robot can fight a bad guy but a car can't.
- Say: **If the car turned into a *mean* robot, then we wouldn't want *that* change. Other movies show people who can turn into animals, like a lady who turns into a cat.** Share one reason *you* think that might be a good change. You might say that the lady could relax like a cat does.
- In leader-led small groups, have preschoolers share what *they* think would be good about a person who can turn into an animal. They might say that the animal could climb better than a person or the animal can run faster than a person.
- Say: **If the person turned into a big scary animal, then we might not want *that* change.**

## Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: **God doesn't need to ever change because God is so powerful. We don't want God to change because he's already exactly what we need. God is so loving that he loves us more than anyone else. And God is with us all the time no matter what—that never changes. The Bible has stories that show us that we can trust God because he doesn't change. Let's learn why we can trust God as we hear from the Bible today.**

Pray, thanking God that we can trust him because he doesn't change.



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## Act It Out

Say: **Today we’re learning that God doesn’t change. God is strong today, and he was strong a long time ago in the Bible. God loves us today, and he loved the people we read about in the Bible. God doesn’t change—ever! That means we can trust God. We can be sure he’ll take care of us like he cared for the people in the Bible.**

Show a Bible. Say: **Let’s look in our Bible to find out how God took care of his friends, the Israelites.**

**God used a man named Moses. Moses was the Israelites’ leader. One day Moses was in the wilderness. The wilderness is a place where there aren’t many people around, like a big field or a forest.** Lead children to the “wilderness” that you prepped ahead of time.

Say: **While Moses was taking care of his animals, he noticed a bush.** Point to the bush you drew. **Something strange was happening with the bush, so Moses stopped to look at it.** Make a few marks on the bush with a red, yellow, or orange marker. **The bush was on fire! But the bush wasn’t changing or burning up.** Have children take turns making red, yellow, or orange marks on the bush for the fire.

Say: **God was in the fire, and God said to Moses, “Here I am. Take off your shoes because you’re in a very special place.” So Moses took off his shoes.** Lead children to remove their shoes.

Say: **God said to Moses, “I made everyone. I made your parents, your grandparents, and all your family.” God made all the people in the Bible, and he even made you and me. The Bible shows us that people trusted God and followed him. And because God doesn’t change, we can trust God, too.**

Point to the bush. Say: **Even though Moses knew God is good, it was a little scary when God showed up in the fire. Moses knew that God is amazing. He was afraid to be so close to such an amazing God, so he hid his face.** Lead children to cover their faces like Moses did.

Say: **But God told Moses, “I can see how sad your family and friends are. I want to help them. Tell your friends and family that I’m going to take them to a new place where they’ll be safe and have everything they need.”**

**But Moses said, “I’m not important enough to do it.” Moses was scared to do such a big thing.**

Share about a time you were scared to do something. You might share about a new job. You might also share about a tricky recipe you tried or a piece of furniture you built.

Ask: • **Tell about a time you were scared to do something.** Preschoolers might share about going to a new school, learning to ride a bike, or moving to a new neighborhood.

Say: **God is with you when you're scared. And God will always take care of you. God doesn't change, so we can trust him to *always* take care of us. God wanted Moses to trust him, too. But Moses still didn't think he was important enough to help God.**

### **Unwrap the Ball**

Say: **Let's do something to help us learn how God showed he's trustworthy and he doesn't change.**

Have the children sit in a circle. Say: **God decided to show Moses some amazing surprises to help Moses understand how strong and powerful God is. We'll use this surprise ball to find out the surprises God showed Moses.**

Have the child on your left unravel the surprise ball for only a count of three and then pass the ball to the next child. Continue having the children each unravel the ball for a count of three until the first toothpick falls out.

Have the child who is closest to the toothpick pick it up and show it. Say: **Look! It's a tiny version of Moses' staff. A staff is like a big stick that can help you walk, and it can help you show your animals where to go. Usually, a staff would be almost as tall as you! God told Moses to throw his staff on the ground.** Invite the child to toss the toothpick to the floor.

Continue having kids unravel the ball as before until the tiny toy snake falls out. Have the child who is closest to the snake pick it up and immediately drop it onto the floor. Say: **When Moses threw his staff on the ground, God made it turn into a big snake! God told Moses, "Pick up the snake by its tail."** Invite the child who unwrapped the snake to pick it up by its tail. Let kids pass it around and look at it. Then set it aside.

Say: **God showed Moses he's powerful and he can do amazing things. But God doesn't change, so we can be sure that God's still powerful and he can do amazing things with us. Let's see what else God can do.**

Continue having kids unravel the ball until the second toothpick falls out. Show the second toothpick. Say: **When Moses picked up the snake by its tail, it turned right back into a staff! God was so powerful, and he's powerful today. God doesn't change. He wanted Moses to trust him, and he wants us to trust him, too. So God kept showing Moses his power. Next, God told Moses to put his hand in his coat.**

Continue having kids unravel the ball until the hand shows. Point out the marks on the hand. Say: **Moses' hand was healthy when he put it into his coat, but when he pulled it out, his hand was sick. God told Moses to put his hand back into his coat a second time.**

Use the wet wipe to clean the marks off the hand. Say: **When Moses pulled out his hand a second time, it was healthy again! God made Moses' hand sick, and then he made it better to show Moses that God can do anything. And God doesn't change, so God can do anything today, too!**

**Let's find out about one more thing God did to show Moses that he's trustworthy.** Continue having kids unwrap the ball until the bag of dirt falls out. Show it to kids. Say: **God told Moses he could also get some water from a river and put it in the dirt. Pour some water into the bag with the dirt. God said he'd change the water to blood.** Add drops of food coloring into the dirt and water.

Say: **God told Moses, "I'll help you show these amazing things to your friends and family. Then they'll know that I'm powerful." God is still powerful like that today. We can trust God because he always does good things. God doesn't change, and we can be sure that he'll take care of us. God will always love us. God will always want the best for us. And that will never change because God doesn't change. We can trust him!** Lead children in cheering, "We can trust God!"



### Supplies

- cookie tin with a lid
- paper
- crayons

### Draw

Say: **Today we learned that God doesn't change, so we can trust him when we're unsure. That means when we're worried or we don't know what to do, we can trust God. When Moses was worried and unsure about what God asked him to do, God reminded Moses that he was always with Moses. God's always there for us, too, and that never, ever changes. Let's think about something we're worried about right now.**

Share about a few things *you* sometimes worry about, and then tell why you can trust God with those worries. Remind children of God's unchanging nature as you share. For example, "Sometimes I worry about money. But God gave me my job where I make money, and I know God is going to take care of me. God always has taken care of me, and he always will because God doesn't change."

Ask: • **What's something you're worried about right now?**

After children share, have them draw pictures of things they're worried or unsure about.

### Pray

Have kids fold their papers, and give each child a turn to put his or her worry in the tin. Say: **We put our worries in this strong tin that won't change. Like the tin, God is strong and he never, ever changes. We can be sure God will be with us and help us through our worries.**

**Let's talk to God about our worries and thank him that he's always with us and that he never, ever changes!** Lead the children in a prayer, mentioning that even though our worries change, God doesn't change and he'll always take care of us. Ask God to help kids trust God, and thank him that he never changes.

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