

GOD IS IMMUTABLE

SUPPLIES

Obtain and Prepare Before Class

- Ground-up aspirin
- Ground-up white chalk
- Powdered sugar
- Three glasses of water
- Three spoons
- Piece of thick cardboard large enough for a child to stand on
- Masking tape
- Box of cornstarch
- Water
- Cookie sheet with sides
- Bowl
- Spoon
- Small plastic toy
- Matches
- Ten-inch tall doll
- Package of rubber bands
- Heavy books
- Yardstick
- Ziploc[®] bag for each child
- “Goop” recipe supplies for each child (page 3)

Provided in the Kit

- Lab glasses
- Lab coat
- Eight balloons

Bible Point

God never changes.

Bible Verse:

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

James 1:17

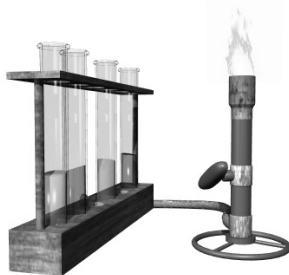
Bible Passage

Psalms 33:11

II Samuel 15:1-23

Overview

God is immutable, meaning He is not capable of change. Although God changes relationships in time, His essence will never change. We can always rely on Him to love us and to keep His promises to us.



(PP)

**Dr. Beaker**Supplies

- Lab Glasses
- Lab Coat

Good day! All is going well in my laboratory this morning. Erlenmeyer and Dynamo are setting out all the supplies for my next experiment.

I will be testing for the characteristic of immutability. Can you say that word with me? Immutability.

I should tell you the meaning of such a large word.

(PP)

My best scientific definition of immutability is:

Immutable means not capable of changing.

If something is immutable, you can count on it to stay the same. It will not change on you.

(PP)

(Voice comes in “Dr. Beaker, we are ready for you!” Then, crashing sound. “Oops. Uh, never mind. We aren’t exactly ready yet.”)

Oh great. I suppose I have another mess in my lab. Will this ever change? I suppose as long as Erlenmeyer and Dynamo are my lab assistants, I will have to put up with this.

(Dr. Beaker leaves, looking a bit put out.)

(PP)

Lab DemonstrationWhite PowderSupplies

- Ground-up aspirin
- Ground-up white chalk
- Powdered sugar
- Three glasses of water
- Three spoons

Mix each of the powders in the water. Before you mix the powder in each glass of water, have the kids guess if the water will change the powder or not. Only one does not change. The chalk is insoluble.

Some things change just like some of the white powder changed when it dissolved in the water. However, God is like the chalk in the experiment. He will not change.

Standing On AirSupplies

- Six balloons
- Piece of thick cardboard large enough for a child to stand on
- Masking tape

Blow up and tie all six balloons. Place them in two rows, three balloons to a row. Tape the balloons together to hold them in place. Place the cardboard on top of them.

Who here can trust me? (Choose a volunteer to come to the front.)

Do you believe that you can stand on air?

What about if the air is in a balloon?

I am going to have you stand on this piece of cardboard that is supported by the balloons. Do you think it will hold you or do you think that the balloons will pop?

Help support your volunteer as he steps onto the cardboard. The cardboard should support him.

Because God does not change, we can put our trust in Him. We know that He is faithful. Whatever He promises, He will do.

Goop

Supplies:

- Box of cornstarch
- Water
- Cookie sheet with sides
- Bowl
- Spoon
- Small plastic toy

****Warning:** When you have completed this experiment, do NOT pour it down the drain. Throw it in the trash. It will clog the drain pipes.

Pour the whole box of cornstarch into the bowl. Slowly add ¼ cup of water at a time. Stir. Keep adding water until the mixture has the consistency of honey. Stirring will become difficult. You may need to use your hands.

Ask a volunteer to come to the front and put his hand in and move it quickly. Is it possible?

Pick up some of the goop in your spoon and pour it into the bowl.

Does it look like a liquid or a solid?

Pour some of the goop into the cookie sheet.

If it is a liquid, when you slap it with your hand, it should splatter all over the place.

Slap it. If you have done the experiment correctly, it will not splatter; it will act like a solid.

Drop the small toy into the goop. Ask a volunteer to get it out. It should be relatively hard to pull it out.

The goop sometimes acts like a liquid. You can pour it. But it also acts like a solid as it will not splatter and feels dry. You are not really sure what to expect out of the goop. God is not like this. You can count on Him. You are not always worried about what to expect out of him. He does not change.

Under Fire

Supplies

- Two balloons
- Matches
- Water

Blow up one balloon and tie it. Place approximately ¼ cup of water into the other balloon.

Sometimes when we are under fire (in other words, really stressed about life) we can pop. We might change from being nice to angry. Hold the flame under the first balloon. It will pop.

However, when we acknowledge that God is in control of our life, we can withstand much more. We know that He can always be counted on to help us when we are under fire.

Hold the flame under the balloon with water in it. The balloon should not pop.



Lab Experiments

(PP) Experiment 1 - Bungee Jumping

Supplies

- Ten inch tall doll
- Package of rubber bands
- Heavy books
- Yardstick

Make a bungee cord by linking rubber bands together end-to-end. Make the bungee cord shorter than a table you will be using.

Stack the heavy books on the table. Place the yardstick under the books. Tie the bungee cord to the yardstick. Tie the other end of the cord to the ankles of the doll. Stand the doll on the yardstick, push it off and watch it bungee jump!

The kids can experiment using different heights.

God is always faithful. Because of His faithfulness, we do not have to worry. Just like the bungee cord could be counted on to catch the doll before it hit the ground, God can be counted on.

Experiment 2 - Seeing Is Not Believing

Supplies

- Glass
- Ten small objects such as marbles, buttons, dimes, etc.

Pair up the children. They should sit across from each other at a table. One child should close one eye. The other child should pick up a small object and move it back and forth over the glass. When the first child thinks that the object is over the glass, he should say, "drop". Drop all 10 objects. When finished, have the pair switch jobs. It is difficult to see the distance correctly with one eye shut.

What happened when you shut one eye and directed the place to drop the object? Did you see it correctly?

Having one eye shut seemed to change the distance you saw. Do you think that sometimes we do not see what God is doing clearly? Does this sometimes make us feel like He has changed?

It is during those times that we have to have faith to believe that He loves us no matter what happens.

Experiment 3 – Individual Goop

Supplies

- Ziploc® bags
- Goop recipe from lab demonstration

Have the children make the goop. Put it into Ziploc bags to take home to play with later.



(PP)

Bible Story

**Psalm 33:11
II Samuel 15:1-23**

David and Absalom

Supplies

- None

We learned that God had Samuel anoint David to be king. Sometimes it must have been hard for David to understand his life. He spent so many years running from Saul. But God is always in control. In time, King Saul was killed and David did become king.

During all this time, God did not change. He continued to love David and to protect him. His purpose for David did not change. He was always

faithful. That seems to be what David may have been thinking about when he wrote Psalm 33:11.

(pp) But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. Psalm 33:11

After David became king, he still had numerous problems. He had to depend on God and have faith that God would always be there for him when he faced bad situations. One of his problems came from his own son, Absalom.

First, Absalom got into trouble and fled the country. King David finally forgave him and told him he could come back. Do you think that Absalom was thankful and wanted to make it up to King David? You might think so. However, Absalom did the exact opposite.

Absalom decided that he wanted to be king. He started talking to people and influencing them to be on his side. He made people think that they would be better off if he was king instead of King David. Before long, Absalom had a lot of people that were following him. He gathered all of these people and made plans to go to Jerusalem and take the throne from King David.

When King David heard about this, he decided to leave Jerusalem. He took his followers and left the city. When Absalom arrived in Jerusalem, he was not satisfied to stay in the city and take the throne. Absalom followed after King David, intent on finding his father and killing him.

While riding through some trees on his horse, Absalom's head got caught in the trees and there he hung, stuck. Can you imagine such a sight? Here is King David's son, betraying his father,

chasing after him. And then, he rides through some trees and gets his head stuck? Have you ever seen anyone get their head stuck in a tree? It surely is not something that happens very often. (pp) How do you think he felt? Mad? Embarrassed? Scared?

(pp) It was not long before Joab, one of the King David's men, found out that Absalom's head was stuck in a tree. He must not have been able to believe it. How could a man like this get his head stuck in a tree? Joab took advantage of Absalom's terrible situation. He rode to the trees and killed Absalom.

When King David heard about this, he was overcome with grief. He loved his son and did not want to see him killed. Even though Absalom had turned against him, he still loved his son.

God is like that with us. We can turn our backs on him and yet, he still loves us. It does not mean that we will not have to bear the consequences of our actions. However, even when we are living with the consequences, God still loves us, calling us back to Him. Because God never changes, His love for us will never change.

(pp)

Prayer



**Thank Jesus for never changing.
Thank Him for the fact that we can always depend on Him.**



Object Lesson/ Modern Day Story

(pp) Quicksand

Supplies

- None

How many of you have ever heard of quicksand? What do you know about quicksand?

Quicksand is really just a mixture of sand and water. The sand is floating on the water.

It appears to be solid, so it is easy to walk into it. However, because there is so much water mixed in with the sand, it cannot support your weight. So, you begin to sink once you are standing on the quicksand.

When people start to sink into the quicksand, they will often panic. They will try to crawl out or thrash around. This only makes it worse, sinking them in further. Experts say that you can get out of quicksand if you keep your head. You need to lean back and try to float on your back. Then, try to paddle with your arms out of the quicksand.

The goop that we made earlier is a lot like quicksand. Both the goop and the quicksand acted like solids and liquids. They seemed to change depending on what you did to them.

Many people build their lives on things that change. Maybe they make their friends the most important thing their lives. However, they soon learn that friends change. Some people build their lives on money. But, people lose jobs or they spend all their money.

Other people may build their lives on power or fame. They want to be famous. But, fame and power do not last. The only non-changing way to build your life is to build it on God and His principles.



Time Stretchers



Craft

Mirror Image Picture

Supplies

- White paper
- Popsicle stick
- Paint
- Newspaper to protect work space

Cover the work space with the newspaper. Fold the sheet of paper in half. Open the paper and lay it flat on the work space. Use the stick to dribble paint along the fold on one side of the paper only. Fold the paper in half and smooth it with your hands. Open the paper. Let it dry.

The design is the same on each side of the paper. It reminds us of God, who is always the same. We can always depend on Him because He will always do what He says. He will always loves us. That will never change. He will always be just. That will never change. He is always faithful. All the things we have learned about Him, will never change. He isn't like friends who might like us one day but the next have a new friend.



Memory Verse

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

James 1:17

Supplies

- Words to verse written on paper
- Wrapping paper or gift bags
- Ribbon or bows

Wrap the words to the verse using wrapping paper or gift bags. If you do not have gift bags, you can use regular lunch bags and place ribbon on them to look like gifts. Have the children pick a gift and unwrap it. When all the gifts are unwrapped, the children should work together to put the verse in order.

Game



Shadows

Supplies

- Lamp or projector

Position the lamp or projector to shine on an empty wall or other large empty space. Give the kids time to play around making shadows. Encourage them to try to make their shadows change by shifting them in different directions.

Have them think about a shadow of a tree or their house as the sun changes position in the sky. One side of their house may be shaded in the morning and the other side in the evening. Discuss how the memory verse for today tells us that God is not like shifting shadows. God remains the same.

Snack



Quicksand Pudding

Supplies:

- Small plastic cups
- Prepared vanilla pudding
- Graham crackers
- Ziploc bags
- Spoons

Spoon the vanilla pudding into each cup about $\frac{3}{4}$ full. Give each child a graham cracker and a Ziploc bag. Have the children place the crackers into their bags and then crush them until they have the appearance of sand. Sprinkle the cracker crumbs onto the pudding.

As the children eat their snacks, discuss what it must feel like to be on quicksand. What things in life are like quicksand? (Relying on friends to make us happy instead of God, lying to get out of trouble, watching TV all the time instead of spending time with God.)

Dr. Beaker

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Memory Verse Words

Every	good and
perfect	gift
is from	above,
coming	down
from the	Father
of the	heavenly
lights,	who
does not	change
like	shifting
shadows.	James 1:17



Together Time

Bible Point

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Bible Passage

Psalms 33:11

II Samuel 15:1-23



God is Immutable

Discussion

- ✧ Discuss how each family member has changed.
- ✧ Discuss what things you need to change to be more like Jesus.

Family Fun

Play Quickchange. See how fast each person can change their clothes. Set a stop watch and have everyone start and finish from the same place.

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