



Into the Unknown / Week 2

SO HOW DOES THIS WORK?

You've probably noticed the whole world has changed in different ways. And, your group time may be changing, too. This adaptation is a tool to help you integrate teaching time with small group time so that the message is broken up and discussed along the way.

USING THE TEACHING VIDEO

The speaker will pause at key moments and a cue will appear on the screen. Remember, to pause the video and give your group time to discuss. Your church may give you a specific amount of time or leave it up to you. When the conversation is ready to transition, start up the video again.

For this video, you will pause for small group conversation at the following times:

0:32
4:12
9:36
9:46
14:53

After the video, be sure to wrap up with more discussion if needed or prayer time.

DON'T FORGET

READ AHEAD

No matter where or how you lead your group, it's important to spend a few minutes preparing. Take time to read the **THINK ABOUT THIS** section which will set you up to meet your students right where they are. And don't forget the **GOAL OF SMALL GROUP** which will point your conversation in the right direction.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Remember, nobody knows your group quite like you. Just because a question appears on a piece of paper or on screen doesn't mean you have to ask it or use the same words. Ultimately, **YOU** are guiding the conversation for your group. So feel free to add, delete, or adapt questions to meet their needs.

LET THEM KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING

Chances are, your few are curious what group will look like if you're changing formats. At the beginning of group time, give them an idea how the format may have changed so they will know what to expect.

SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

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BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE

God goes with you into the unknown.

SCRIPTURE

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze (Isaiah 43:2 NIV).

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33 NIV).

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To encourage students to see that God is with them through change, and to help them take one step toward trusting Him to be there through the unknown.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Remembering that God is with them can feel like an abstract concept in a phase where your students still

think concretely. If students can't physically see, experience, or talk to God, it can be hard for them to know God is really there. Examples of how we can know God is with us will help frame this concept for them and get their minds thinking about how this looks in their own lives. It's important to keep in mind the students in your group who have dealt with difficult and permanent changes. The one who lost a loved one, the one whose house burned down, the one whose parents got divorced, the one who was just diagnosed with an illness. For them, knowing God is with them in that change may not make much of a difference right now, and that's okay. The goal isn't to put a temporary band-aid on their hurt, but rather, to offer them the comfort and truth that God is with them (even when they don't feel it). This is a foundation that will help them hold on to something that doesn't change, even if it's not right away.

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

After the first break, complete this ice breaker:

ICE BREAKER

If you could change anything in the world, what would you change?

DISCUSS THIS

After the second break, discuss these questions:

1. What's one example of a change that's fun?
2. What's one example of a change that's not so fun?
3. What's one thing you do when you're dealing with a change that's hard?

After the third break, complete this activity:

DO THIS (EXPERIENCE)

As a group, read Isaiah 43:2 together. Have your few memorize or pick out phrases that stand out to them from this Scripture. Then, if using the provided journal, ask them to write down other words that the verse makes them think about.

After the fourth break, discuss these questions:

4. What might make it hard to believe that God is with you in the unknown?
5. Does knowing that God promises to be with you in the unknown change anything? Why or why not?

After the fifth break, discuss these questions:

6. What's one area of your life that is changing right now?
7. What could it look like to trust God with that part of your life?

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