

Uncertain Times – Unchanging God

Over the last few weeks and now going into months we have gone through and are still going through changes and uncertainty (doubt about the future, not knowing what is going to happen, feeling like you don't know what to do, what is going to happen next).

Lots of our daily life has changed – going to school – having school at home, going to meet our friends at church, time to play in the park, meeting up with our friends, having our friends round to play, seeing our family, going to the shops; for the grown-ups going to work, different visits to the supermarket; guidance to stay at home, then stay alert. It may have been challenging and difficult at times and I know I have had lots of questions and there are lots of things we are perhaps not sure of. I'm sure you have a big long list of changes that have affected you and lots of questions you still have.

We may have been frustrated or bored, lonely or sad. We might have used the extra time at home to learn something new, play board games, bake, read, gardening and maybe learn more about God. There seem to have been a lot of 'no's' but we have adapted and done things differently – perhaps having our shopping delivered for the first time, use video chat to talk to our family, Skype, Zoom, email – send cards instead of visiting, send virtual hugs., having lots of good times with our families at home.

The one thing we can be sure about is who our God is. Just because our situation and all these things outside of our control have been going on doesn't mean that God changes.

Its hard to imagine someone who never changes. We change our clothes, our shoe size, our friends, our age, our mind. Some things change fast, some change slowly but everything is changing. Everything that is except God.

God is the same yesterday, today and forever as it says in the verse. Hebrews 13:8

Let's chat

- What things are difficult to be certain about?

Weather, what people will think, how people will behave, when you roll dice, what you might get in and LOL surprise, what gift you will get for a birthday, whether seeds will grow, the internet works, the bus turns up on time

- What things can we be certain about?

Night follows day, Tuesday follows Monday, God never changes – no matter what's going on in our lives or what else changes we can always rely on him, God is always there for us to talk to, we are not in the situation alone

- When you go through a difficult time who do you go to for help? Bible, pray to God, talk to friends, family.....
- Do you think it is a good thing that God never changes, why? If God did change it could change everything about him – his attributes. Power, holiness, love, everywhere, truthfulness, mercy, knowledge, always right, faithfulness, creator, king.
- How does knowing God is consistent help you through uncertain times? Because God Never Changes, you never have to worry that any of the things about him, his attributes will change. You can count on them no matter what!

What does the Bible have to say?

This verse says that all other things get old and wear out, but what about God? He stays the same. They (the Earth and Heavens) will perish, but You will remain forever. They will wear out like old clothing. But You are always the same; You will live forever. Hebrews 1:11-12

What does God do? God never changes.

God is the same yesterday, today and forever as it says in the verse. Hebrews 13:8

God is our protection and our strength. He always helps in times of trouble. Psalm 46:1

Activity

- Name as many characteristics about God that will never change
- Find a small stone. Imagine that stone is God – solid, strong, unchanging. Write down one thing where you need God's strength. Take some time to pray about it. Ask God to help you in the situation. Put the stone in your room or on the window sill and use it as a reminder that no matter what you are facing you can turn to God for strength
- Take a piece of paper; draw a circle. In the circle write or draw what you find uncertain or difficult; around the circle draw or write things that you know God is – faithful, love, powerful, helper

Prayer

Thank God that you never change, that do not leave us, that you are always ready to listen. Thank you for bring our guide and our strength. Give us peace as we are unsure what lies ahead. Amen.