The Dependable, Stable God
Sermon Based Discussion (April 14, 2013)
Sermon Series: Making Change

WARM UP

1. Describe one way in which you have changed in the past 12 months.

2. Or, what is something you thought you would never change, but after time you did change?

3. Or, what promise did someone make to you and then later that person changed his/her mind?

4. Or, do you ever get moody? When does that happen and how do you act differently?

People change. That gives us hope because we like to believe we can better our lives. The idea of people changing inspires people to move forward.

But what about God—what if He changed? Or, what if He was unchanging? Which would give us more hope: a God that changes, or a God that doesn't?

In this session, we consider the biblical doctrine of the immutability of God. That is, the teaching that God does not change in his essential character and essence. We'll consider the relevance of God's immutability to our lives.

INTO THE BIBLE
(Read Malachi 3:6 and Numbers 23:19)

5. According to these passages, why does God not change?

(Read 2 Kings 20:1-7)

6. This story looks like God flip flops and changed His mind. What explanations are there to show that even in this situation, God did not change?

UNDERSTANDING

7. What are some reasons for why a perfect God cannot change?

8. Why is it significant that God does not change?

DIFFERENCE

9. If you've ever felt like God was moody towards you, how did your circumstances cause you feel that way?

10. Is there an area of your life that you need to remind yourself that Jesus is unchanging?

11. How would you view your situation differently if you were 100% convinced that God didn't change in His goodness, His wisdom, His holiness, etc.?

APPLICATION

12. What is one step you can take towards reminding yourself daily that God does not change?

One idea is this. In the coming days, pray at least once a day to God this prayer: "God, You do not change."

FOR REFLECTION

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