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This Changes Everything is an amazing resource for your youth ministry events. By leading your students through ***This Changes Everything***, you'll not only challenge them to know God on a deeper level, you'll equip them to do it long after your event is over.

Before jumping into this sample, make sure you check out all the amazing features that **ym360 Event Resources** puts at your fingertips. There really is nothing else like it anywhere . . .

WHAT YOU'LL FIND IN THIS SAMPLE

- A Sample of a Small Group Lesson Plan
- A Sample of the Student Book
- A short version of ***This Changes Everything*** overviews showing the biblical passages covered throughout ***This Changes Everything***

Of course each of these components, and dozens more, are available to your teachers through their Online Lesson Manager. But this PDF will simply give you an idea of the main content of ***This Changes Everything***.

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SESSION 1: HOW IT WAS: THE WORLD AND OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE CHANGE

What we want students to learn: That as human beings, we are desperately in need of a Savior.

What we want students to do with what they've learned: Genesis 1-3

Supplemental Scripture: Romans 3:23, Psalm 14:1-7

Session Snapshot: When we understand where we come from, we have the proper lens through which to see exactly how and why we need to be transformed. Today, we'll turn to our origin story: how humanity was created by a loving God, how He provided for us in every way, and the betrayal in the Garden that separated us. We'll also seek to understand sinfulness vs. God's holiness on a macro level, and talk about how it relates us personally, in a micro sense.

BIBLE BACKGROUND

The Bible Background is a focused, brief overview of some of the background info for the main passage you will be teaching.

TEACHER PREP VIDEO

Each Small Group Leader's Guide comes with a **Teacher Prep Video**. These are simply short videos designed to help you grasp the main point of the lesson as you prepare to teach.

To access your **This Changes Everything** lesson 1 Teacher Prep Video, login to your account, navigate to your Small Group lesson 1, and click on the "Background" tab in your Lesson Manager. You'll notice the Teacher Prep Video at the top of the Lesson Manager window.

THE DETAILS

Who wrote this book?

While there's no specific author named within the text, Moses is the accepted author for Genesis, with some editing and additions done after his death (such as the account of his death!).

When was it written?

It's difficult to establish with any certainty a date for the completion of the Pentateuch (a name for the first five books of the Bible—including Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy—of which Genesis is a part). Most of the material originated from Moses himself, and depending on the date of the Exodus (which is also not known for sure), that would make the date for the writing of Genesis sometime in the 1400s or the 1200s BC.

What was the purpose for its writing?

Genesis details the earliest history of our world, including creation and Adam and Eve's fall. It also focuses on the emergence of Israel, not only as God's people, but as the group God would work through to bring redemption to the world.

THE MAIN POINT

The main point for this session is for students to understand that God is holy, and that our sin separates from Him. The transgressions that Adam and Eve committed aren't just old stories that have no impact on people's lives today. Human-



SESSION 1: HOW IT WAS: THE WORLD AND OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE CHANGE

ity lives in the continued cycle of personal sin and hollow sacrifice today.

THE TAKEAWAY

The takeaway here is the practical knowledge of how we are a sinful people, and a focus on the grace of God displayed in the sending of His son to be the sacrifice for our sin.

LESSON PLAN

The **Lesson Plan** contains three elements: an introductory activity called **Getting Started**; the Bible study section called **Digging In**; and an application-focused segment called **Wrapping Up**.

GETTING STARTED

- **Student Book Pages**

- o This lesson will utilize pages 8-13 in the *This Changes Everything* Student Book.
- o This activity will use page 9.

- **Additional Instructions**

- o You'll need scratch paper or notecards. Make sure students have something to write with.

FIRST, welcome students to their first Small Group Session. If everyone in the group doesn't already know each other, take a moment to have everyone introduce themselves. Explain to them that you're going to spend a lot of time together this week. Explain that a great way to get to know someone is by learning about the weirdest thing they did as a kid.

THEN, pass out notecards or some other kind of scratch paper, along with something to write with. Instruct students to write down a quirky habit or bizarre experience they had when they were younger. (Anything from "I used to be obsessed with marine life and wore a scuba mask everywhere," to "I forced everyone in my family to refer to me as Buttons McGee.") Once you've collected everyone's submission, mix them up and pass them out again. Go around the circle and have each student read their new card aloud. As each one is revealed, ask students to try and guess who belongs to which one. Revel in the weirdness of your students.

THEN, instruct students to turn to page 9 in their Student Books. Direct their attention to the activity entitled "Origin Stories." Say something like:

- **We're going to talk about origin stories. Ask if anyone in your group is familiar with origin stories. If not, tell them that an origin story is essentially the backstory of how a character got to be who they are, most frequently seen in comics for superheroes.**

NEXT, instruct your small group to divide into two groups, then to match the origin story with the character. When they've finished, lead students in a short discussion. Ask questions similar to the following:

- **Why are these origin stories important?**

- o Answers will vary, but if no one answers, point out that origin stories give us context as to where these superheroes are coming from.



SESSION 1: HOW IT WAS: THE WORLD AND OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE CHANGE

- **Why is it important to understand where someone is coming from?**
 - Answers will vary.
- **Did these origin stories give you a better idea of why these superheroes behave a certain way?**
 - Answers will vary. An example here is Iron Man, whose origin story of being forced to create weaponry for his evil kidnappers lead him to use his money and talent for good.

FINALLY, begin to transition to the Bible study portion of the lesson by saying something like the following:

- **We're going to talk about OUR origin story. Sure, we each have our own backstory of how we became who we are today. They serve the purpose of discovering and understanding someone's context. But humanity as a whole shares an origin story. Uncovering this story will help us understand the foundations of who we are, why we do the things we do, and why the Gospel has been set up in this way.**

Ask if anyone has any thoughts or questions, then transition to *Digging In*.

DIGGING IN

- **Student Book Pages**
 - This activity will utilize pages 10-11 in the *This Changes Everything* Student Book.
- **Additional Instructions**
 - You'll want to make sure students have something to write with, and a Bible or Bible app.

FIRST, have a student read the Session 1 introduction on page 8. Then, have several students turn to the following scriptures:

- Genesis 1:1-23
- Genesis 1:24-31
- Genesis 2:5-9
- Genesis 2:15-25
- Genesis 3:1-13
- Genesis 3:14-24

While they are looking and getting situated, tell everyone that the Greek translation of the word Genesis literally means "origin." Say something like:

- **What we're about to read informs our own origin story: who we are, who God is, and how we live in the world today.**

Then have your designated readers go through their readings. When they have finished, tell students that the Scripture you have just read together is going to act as a lens through which to view their entire experience here, and their lives.

NEXT, ask students questions about the text similar to the following:

- **What is something that jumps out at you when we read these first few verses of creation?**
 - Answers will vary, but point out the repetition of "And the Lord saw that it was good."
- **What do you see that is different from this pattern in chapter 1, verse 31?**



SESSION 1: HOW IT WAS: THE WORLD AND OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE CHANGE



- o Answer: After man and woman were created, the Lord called it very good, instead of just good.
- **Let's move down to chapter 2, verse 16. What does God say to Adam?**
 - o Answers will stick pretty close to "do not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil," but be sure to point out that God also tells Adam he may eat from ANY of the other trees in the garden.
- **Skip to verse 25. What sticks out to you in this verse?**
 - o Answers will vary (and there will probably be some giggling), but mention that Adam and Eve were naked, but not ashamed. This will come into play later in our origin story.

THEN, instruct students to skip to chapter 3. Explain that they are about to encounter some major conflict in the origin story. First we have God creating a beautiful and functional garden. Then we have Him creating man and woman, making them the caretakers of the garden and everything in it. Ask:

- **What is the first thing the serpent says to Eve? Why is it important?**
 - o Answer: He asks her "Did God actually say . . ." The serpent plants the idea that God is holding out on her, that what He's asked her to do (not eat from the tree) is not in her best interest. In this way, he plants doubt in her mind that God is for her. The serpent also deliberately misquotes God's instructions.
- **What does the serpent say in verses 4-5?**
 - o Answer: The serpent tells her that she won't actually die and in fact, she'll be like God. He made her discontent with all the other trees (literally every other tree in the whole garden) she had access to.
- **Why is this significant?**
 - o Answer: 1) God placed the man and the woman in authority over the beasts (including the serpent). By listening and heeding the words of the serpent, they are already disobeying God. 2) The man and the woman are already made in the image of God. They are already like God in this way.
- **What happens when the man and the woman eat the fruit?**
 - o Answer: Their eyes are opened and they become aware of their nakedness, only now it makes them ashamed.
- **Was the serpent right when he said you will not surely die?**
 - o Answer: While Adam and Eve didn't immediately die when they ate the fruit, their disobedience to and betrayal of their relationship with God lead to their death.
- **In verse 8, God shows up, and Adam and Eve hide from Him. They know they've messed up big time. In verse 14, who does God speak to first? What does He say?**
 - o Answer: He curses the serpent first, telling him that he is now the "most cursed" among all the animals.
- **In verse 15, something very important happens. Do you know what it is?**
 - o Answer: God says that there will be enmity, or bad blood, between the offspring of the serpent, and the offspring of the woman. One could say that this is just a picture of how much humans and snakes do not get along (and this is true, snakes are gross). But actually, there's a deeper meaning here. It's a prophecy by God. The serpent, or the deceiver, will be defeated by a future offspring of the woman. This is the first mention in scripture of the Gospel, of Jesus's defeat of Satan. God technically hasn't even cursed Adam and Eve to death yet, and He's already building them a plan of salvation. "He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" is another way of saying: the snake might find a way to hurt mankind, but in the end, the snake will be crushed.

Say something like:

- **In verses 16-19, God curses Adam and Eve. This was the fall of humankind. A holy God demands**



SESSION 1: HOW IT WAS: THE WORLD AND
OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE CHANGE

holiness, demands obedience, demands loyalty. Not because He is demanding, but because in His perfection, He cannot have anything less. With their disobedience, with their betrayal, they allowed sin into the world, and subsequently, they ushered in pain, death, suffering, war, hunger, poverty, and so on. It is all a direct consequence of that afternoon in the Garden.

Ask students to discuss this: how does it make them feel?

NEXT, instruct another student to read verse 21. Then ask:

- **What does this sentence mean to you?**

- o Answer: That while Adam and Eve broke their relationship with God, He still made clothes for them. He still cared for them. Interestingly enough, God had to kill something in His creation to make clothes. Something had to die. This is yet another hint at how we will be saved: Jesus must die for us to have communion with God again.

Direct students' attention to look at verses 22-24. Then explain that it's really hard to see any hope in these last verses. We went from perfect communion with God to separation from God. But remind them that God, while pronouncing the curse over Adam and Eve and all their descendants, was actively proclaiming over them a way back to Him.

THEN, ask students to turn to page 10. Explain that you have talked a lot about humanity's origin story, but now you're going to think about your own origin stories. In the same way that sin and its consequences defined humanity's story, sin and its consequences also defines their story. Instruct students to spread out and grab a pen or pencil. Take some time to walk through the questions on page 10. These questions will help them map out their own origin story, helping them better understand where they came from. Allow students 5-10 minutes to work through this exercise. Once they've finished, have them return to the group. Ask:

- **Did working through your origin story reveal anything to you about your context?**
 - o Answers will vary.
- **Did you discover the effects of sin (either your own or someone else's) in your origin story?**
 - o Answers will vary.

NEXT, have students turn to page 11. Set the stage for the passage you're about to read by referencing the following bullet points:

- **The Apostle Paul was speaking here to Jews (God's chosen people) and Gentiles (folks who were former pagans or didn't have any kind of religious upbringing. Just basically anyone who wasn't a Jew). Two very different people groups who were now united under the church of Jesus.**
- **Paul talks a lot about the "The Law." He's referencing the Jewish law (basically the Ten Commandments and all the extra rules [over 600 of them] that God and the rabbis gave the Jews in order to ensure they would be redeemed).**
- **He's trying to explain to his audience that it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, everyone has sinned.**

THEN, read or have a student read Romans 3:21-23. When you've finished, direct students' attention to the questions written on page 11 under the header, "Who Is Righteous?" Work through the questions as a group. The questions/



SESSION 1: HOW IT WAS: THE WORLD AND OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE CHANGE

answers are given for you below:

- **What is Romans 3:21-23 saying?**
 - Answer: That no one, no matter if you are Jew or Gentile, can keep the law so well that it earns them salvation. Everyone who has ever lived has fallen short of God's glory. Everyone has sinned.
- **Do you agree with this passage in Scripture?**
 - Answers will vary. Ask students WHY they do or don't.
- **If all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, what does that mean in our relationship with Him?**
 - Answers will vary.

FINALLY, say something like the following:

- **No matter who we are, no matter where we come from, no matter how much money we have or don't have, every single person on earth has failed to meet the standards set by God. Our origin story is one of being sinful and unable to save ourselves. Adam and Eve got it started, but you and I are still following in their footsteps.**

Transition to the *Wrapping Up* portion of your lesson.

WRAPPING UP

- **Student Book Pages**
 - This activity will utilize page 12 in the *This Changes Everything* Student Book.
- **Additional Instructions**
 - Make sure students have something to write with.

FIRST, ask one student to turn to Psalm 14:1-7. Say something like the following:

- **It's not very comforting that everyone, no matter what, has sinned. Because a perfect God demands holiness. We must understand the depth and reality of our sin if we are to accept the gift of salvation. It's painful to realize how sinful we are and how we, in our humanity, can only be sinful. The passage we're about to read was probably written as a hymn. When the Israelites gathered together, this song was to lament the state of the world, how sin devoured humanity. It's not a happy topic, but there is deeper joy coming.**

THEN, read or have a student read the passage aloud. When you've finished, ask students to turn to page 12 in their student books. Explain that we have to understand our role in sin, and we have to mourn it. So explain that they're going to write their own psalm of lament about their own sin and the sin that's affected their lives.

Allow students some time to write their psalms using the prompts on page 12. After a few minutes, let them share if they want. Let the discussion revolve around how they are processing their role in the narrative you've worked through today.

FINALLY, wrap up your discussion by saying something like the following:

- **This is a hard conversation to have with ourselves. It's also hard to leave the story on this note. Because**



**SESSION 1: HOW IT WAS: THE WORLD AND
OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE CHANGE**



there is so much more coming. But an understanding of our sinful nature, of the fall of man, of our role in sin is crucial to getting our heads around WHY we need a Savior.

Ask students if they have any questions or additional comments. Inform students of the devotions located on pages 40-47 in their Student Books. Provide them with a schedule or some structure as to when you would like for them to work through them. (The first devotion is on page 40.)

If there are no more questions, close in prayer for your group.



**THIS
CHANGES
EVERYTHING**

—
2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

INTERACTIVE STUDENT BOOK



THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Nothing Is The Same When We Encounter Jesus
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THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING Intro	4
Large Group Session 1 Notes	6
Small Group Session 1 Intro	8
Session 1 Getting Started	9
Session 1 Digging In	10
Session 1 Wrapping Up	12
Large Group Session 2 Notes	14
Small Group Session 2 Intro	16
Session 2 Getting Started	17
Session 2 Digging In	18
Session 2 Wrapping Up	20
Large Group Session 3 Notes	22
Small Group Session 3 Intro	24
Session 3 Getting Started	25
Session 3 Digging In	26
Session 3 Wrapping Up	28
Large Group Session 4 Notes	30
Small Group Session 4 Intro	32
Session 4 Getting Started	33
Session 4 Digging In	34
Session 4 Wrapping Up	36
Devotion 1	38
Devotion 2	40
Devotion 3	42
Devotion 4	44
About the Authors	46

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

INTRO

The world looks a certain way. The status quo. It is what it is. Things will never change.

Until it does.

Something happens. Something big. A complete 180° turn from death to life.

That something is Jesus Christ.

The power of the Gospel is transformative. It takes hearts of stone and turns them into hearts of flesh. It flips the light switch on darkness. It resurrects the dead and breathes life into them. It delivers hope, it offers peace, and it changes everything.

If you're ready to come into contact with the love and grace of Jesus Christ, if you're ready for nothing in your life to be the same, then it's time to jump into This Changes Everything. Let's go.

HAVE YOU PREPARED FOR THE JOURNEY?

Ask yourself: Is my heart prepared to be challenged? Am I willing to be changed? If you can't answer "yes" to these questions, this journey might not be nearly as spectacular as it could be. If you need to, take a moment and silently talk to God in prayer. Ask God to radically move in your life.

YOU'RE HOLDING YOUR MAP

This book your holding is the road map for your journey. It will help guide your experiences. Write your name and date in the front. Hold on to it. You may want to look back and remember this time in your life.

LEARN. AND TEACH.

Keep your eyes and ears open for those valuable moments where God wants to teach you something. But don't miss the chance to teach your friends and be taught by them. Your friends are with you in this experience. Be open to what God is doing in and through them, and how He might be using them to speak to you. And vice versa.

**“THEREFORE,
IF ANYONE IS IN
CHRIST, HE IS A NEW
CREATION. THE OLD
HAS PASSED AWAY;
BEHOLD, THE NEW
HAS COME.”**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17



LARGE GROUP

NOTES

SESSION 1

These pages are designed for any notes you might want to jot down during this Large Group session. There's a lot of awesome stuff you're going to be learning. So, even if you're not much of a note taker, you might want to at least jot down what you think is important.

TRY WRITING DOWN:

- Any specific teaching points
- Verse references for Scripture passages
- Quotes that make you think
- Anything you have a question about

SMALL GROUP

ONE

INTRO

Origin stories. They're important because they give context.

Take superheroes for instance. They have the best origin stories because, often, they clue you in to what makes them the way they are. Once you know that Dex-Starr was an abandoned kitten who was almost drowned by hoodlums, you totally get why he would seek vengeance on street kids.

When we get the backstory on someone, it becomes easier to understand what drives them in the present day. And just like superheroes (or super cat villains), we each have an origin story. And so does humanity.

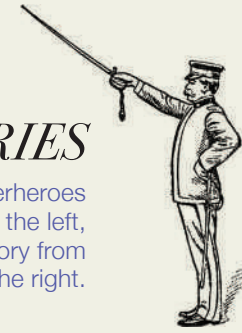
In this first Small Group, we're going to look into the origin story of us as people. We're going to learn how we got here. And we're going to take a peek at where we're headed.

Ready? Let's jump in.



ORIGIN STORIES

For each of the superheroes listed in the column on the left, match their origin story from the column on the right.



SMALL GROUP

ONE

GETTING STARTED

SUPERHEROS & SUPERVILLANS

Batman

Superman

Nightman

The Whizzer

Catwoman

Squirrel Girl

Dex-Starr

SUPERHEROS & SUPERVILLANS

An abandoned kitten nearly drowned by hoodlums is transformed into an evil villain by the power of his rage.

A flight attendant who is struck on the head during a plane crash and left with amnesia whose father owned a pet store.

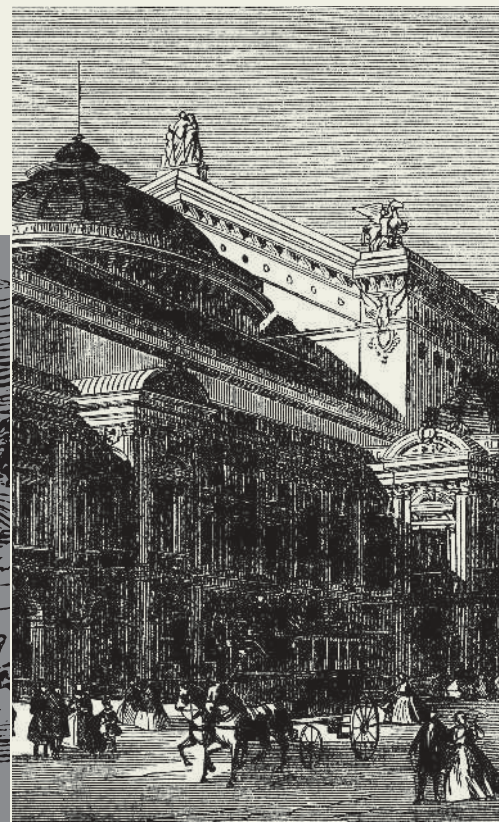
A saxophone-playing jazz singer gets struck by lightning on a cable car, giving him super-powers, but making it difficult for him to sleep.

A young girl grew a tail.

A rich man stands up to his fear of flying mammals and becomes one.

A young man was bitten by a cobra, so his father injected him with mongoose blood, giving him super-speed.

An alien that was sent to earth and must hide in plain sight.



SMALL GROUP

ONE

DIGGING IN

MY ORIGIN STORY

Work through the following activities with your group to unpack what they mean for your life.

PROMPT 1:

Describe in a few sentences how your life was growing up.

PROMPT 2:

Describe who was primarily responsible for raising you.

PROMPT 3:

Describe a few of the main blessings that have defined your life.

PROMPT 4:

Describe some of the struggles that have defined your life.

PROMPT 5:

If you had to imagine, write down a few sentences on where you think your life is headed.

WHO IS RIGHTEOUS?

“But now, the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it — the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God...” - Romans 3:21-23

- What is Romans 3:21-23 saying?
- Do you agree with this passage in Scripture? Why or why not?
- If all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, what does that mean in our relationship with Him?



SMALL GROUP

ONE

WRAPPING UP

*A PSALM OF
YOUR OWN*

Come up with your very own psalm to express your feelings to God.

PROMPT 1:

What do you say in your heart about God? Don't hold back. Be honest.

PROMPT 2:

If God were to look down from heaven on you, what would He see within your heart?

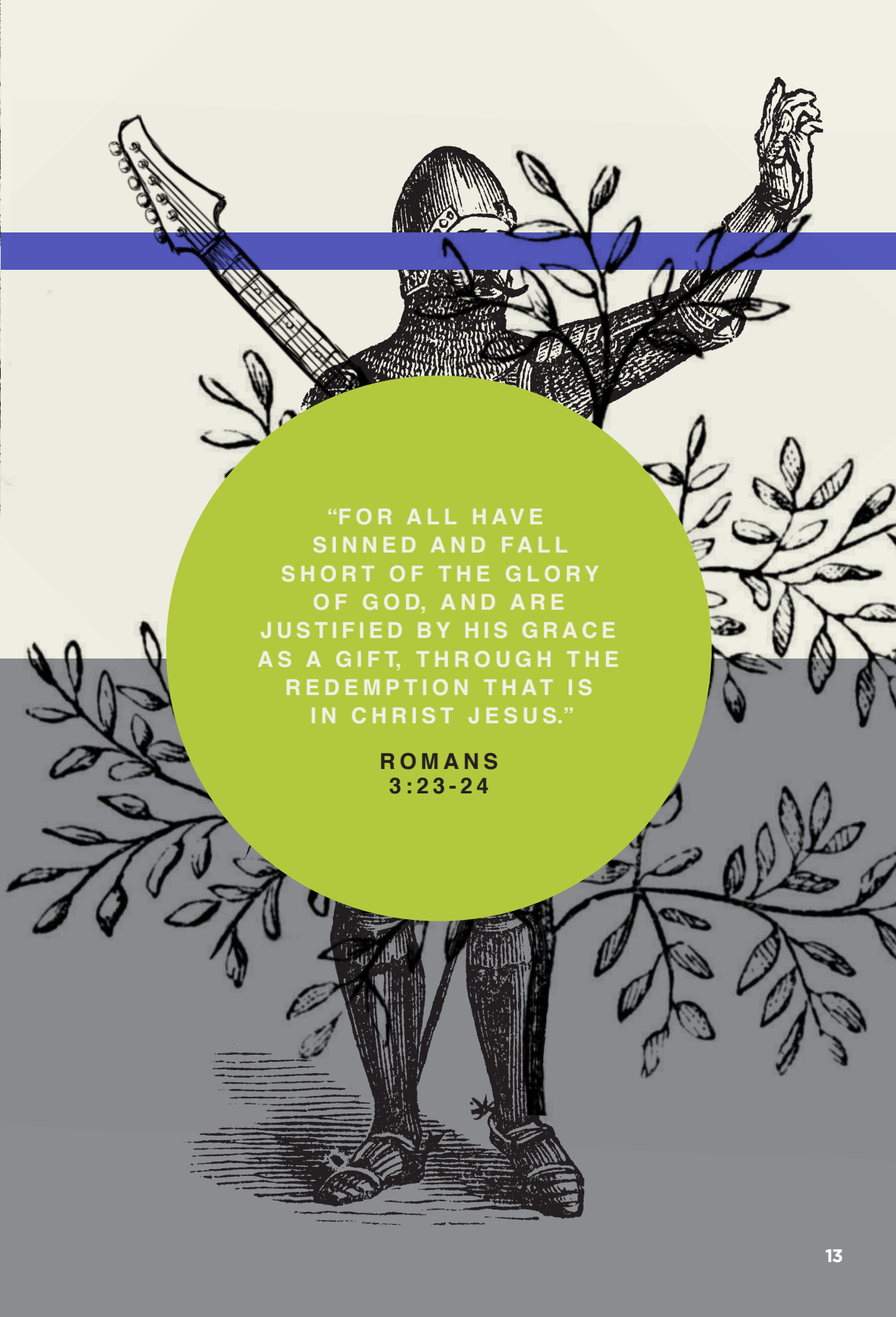
PROMPT 3:

If your sin were an outward manifestation on you physically, what would you look like?

PROMPT 4:

In verse 7, the psalmist talks about the salvation coming for Israel. How do you visualize salvation coming for you?

Now build a psalm similar to the one you read in Psalm 14:1-7. Be creative!



“FOR ALL HAVE
SINNED AND FALL
SHORT OF THE GLORY
OF GOD, AND ARE
JUSTIFIED BY HIS GRACE
AS A GIFT, THROUGH THE
REDEMPTION THAT IS
IN CHRIST JESUS.”

**ROMANS
3:23-24**

This Changes Everything

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold: the new has come.” – 2 Corinthians 5:17

The world looks a certain way. The status quo. It is what it is. Things will never change.

Until it does.

Something happens. Something big. A complete 180° turn from death to life.

That something is Jesus Christ.

The power of the Gospel is transformative. It takes hearts of stone and turns them into hearts of flesh. It flips the light switch on darkness. It resurrects the dead and breathes life into them. It delivers hope, it offers peace, and it changes everything.

Students will encounter how Jesus shifts our attitudes, revolutionizes our thoughts, and reconstructs our words. They will see that when He comes into our lives, He gives us a new song, and we are fully, utterly, absolutely, to our very core transformed.

Teach *This Changes Everything* and help your students see the amazing message of how nothing can ever be the same with Jesus.

Small Group Outlines

The small group times in *This Changes Everything* work in perfect concert with the Large Group outlines. Each Small Group session builds on the corresponding theme of the Large Group Outline.

Session 1: How It Was: The World And Our Hearts Before the Change

What We Want Students to Learn: That as human beings, we are desperately in need of a Savior.

Main Scripture: Genesis 1-3

Supplemental Scripture: Romans 3:23, Psalm 14:1-7

Session Snapshot: When we understand where we come from, we have the proper lens through which to see exactly how and why we need to be transformed. Today, we'll turn to our origin story: how humanity was created by a loving God, how He provided for us in every way, and the betrayal in the Garden that separated us. We'll also seek to understand sinfulness vs. God's holiness on a macro level, and talk about how it relates us personally, in a micro sense.

Session 2: How It Changed: The Revolutionary Power Of The Gospel

What We Want Students to Learn: That through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, God made it possible for us to be once-and-for-all set free from the consequences of sin.

Main Scripture: Ephesians 1:7-10

Supplemental Scripture: Galatians 4:4-7; Romans 10:9-13

Session Snapshot: When Adam and Eve sinned, it didn't catch God off-guard or by surprise. God has always had a plan in motion, and it looks like this: you are loved. God has fought for you. And when Jesus comes into your life, you move from being a slave to the world and its emptiness to an heir with Him. When you come to saving faith in Jesus, you are adopted into grace through Jesus' death and resurrection: the old is gone and the new has come.

Session 3: How It Is: Walking In Newness Of Life

What We Want Students to Learn: That we live our lives in accordance with how Jesus has changed us.

Main Scripture: Colossians 3:12-17

Supporting Scripture: James 1:2-4, Ezekiel 36:26

Session Snapshot: How then shall we live? A transformed life in Christ means we aren't bound by the old ways of the world. When Jesus takes our heart of stone and gives us back a heart of flesh, that new heart comes with new purpose: to know Christ and make Him known. Our priorities come into focus and our faith is expressed through our purpose and life. We'll look at what's important to believers and how to live like a Christ-follower who has been fundamentally changed.

Session 4: How It Will Be: A Future Hope

What We Want Students to Learn: That because of God's promise to redeem all things, we can enjoy the good times and make it through the bad times without losing hope.

Main Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Supporting Scripture: Revelation 22:1-5

Session Snapshot: When we look around at the world, there's so much to love. Everywhere you turn there is God's goodness on display. But, if we're honest, there are times when things get tough. In these times, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. It can sometimes be difficult to see God, especially when we know that He has promised to make all things new. But we can trust His word. We can actively live as children of the promise, all the while hoping in a future where everything will be made right and we are fully redeemed. It's worth the wait.

Large Group Outlines

The large group times in *This Changes Everything* work in perfect concert with the Small group sessions. Each Large Group session supports what is discussed in your small groups.

Session 1: The Younger Son & Sin

- **Session Purpose:** That sin separates us from God.
- **Main Scripture:** Luke 15:11-16
- **Supplemental Scripture:** James 4:17, Isaiah 59:2, Romans 6:23
- **Session Snapshot:** When we understand sin, it helps us to understand our need for God. Each large group session will highlight an aspect of the Parable of the Lost Son, found in Luke 15. In this session, we'll look at the Younger Son, and his sin that begins the story of God's rich and unending love for His children. Students will encounter that sin is a choice, that it causes separation between us and God, and that it is deadly.

Session 2: The Father & Forgiveness

- **Session Purpose:** That forgiveness is available through Jesus.
- **Main Scripture:** Luke 15:17-21
- **Supplemental Scripture:** Romans 1:21-25, Romans 5:8, Luke 15:3-7
- **Session Snapshot:** In this session, we'll focus on the character of the Father, and how His forgiveness and restoration of the Prodigal Son informs our relationship with God. This Large Group session will highlight that the Father allowed the Younger Son to leave, but when he returned, the Father did not hesitate in welcoming him home and celebrating his restoration.

Session 3: The Older Son & Christian Living

- **Session Purpose:** That our Christian life is not about being a slave, but about being a child of God.
- **Main Scripture:** Luke 15:25-32
- **Supporting Scripture:** Galatians 2:16, Romans 8:14-16, John 14:23
- **Session Snapshot:** We often think we have a good idea of what the Christian life looks like: be good, follow the rules, don't sin. But the Older Son character in this parable serves to show us that God wants an intimate relationship with his children. This Large Group session will help students understand that the Older Son was self-righteous in that he thought his works were the way to the Father's heart, that he was a slave and had a distorted view of the Christian life, and that he missed the point of living with the Father entirely.

Session 4: The Feast

- **Session Purpose:** That celebration for each sinner-turned-child is a part of the story God is telling in our lives.
- **Main Scripture:** Luke 15:22-24
- **Supporting Scripture:** Ephesians 2:4-7, 1 Peter 3:18, Romans 10:12-13
- **Session Snapshot:** Our parable concludes with the feast, thrown for the return of the Prodigal Son, which holds many parallels to the celebration that happens when we accept Christ as our Savior. This Large Group session will highlight how the Feast fills us up, who it is costly for, and that it is open to anyone who calls on the name of the Lord.