

# “Power Promises” - LESSON 1

## “Jesus Never Changes”

### Main Focus:

Jesus’ love, power, and truth never change!



### Power Verse:

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”  
– Hebrews 13:8



### Whatchagaddaknow:

“Jesus Christ Will Never Change!”

## LEADER’S INFO

We live in a world that changes almost daily. Technology has accelerated the change around us. What was considered “cutting edge” only five years ago is not impressive today.

Fashion fades, styles change, and even what people consider truth changes on an almost daily basis. It’s hard to keep up with the changes.

In this lesson, the children will learn that Jesus’ love, power, and truth never change. He’s the same today as He was when He was ministering on Earth. Through the story of the adulteress woman, they will see Jesus’ love in action.

When so much change is happening around them, the children can know that Jesus never changes!



### “The Spark” Intro Video

“Hammer Time!”



### “Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Big Ray teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



### Character Skit

“Patty Promise”



### Offering Time



### Game Time!

“Hide And Seek”



### Bible Story

“Jesus Forgives A Sinful Woman”



### Power Verse Video

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” – Hebrews 13:8



### Call To Action

“Jesus Never Changes”



### Rewind!

Review Game



### Small Group Experience

**Main Focus:**

Jesus’ love, power, and truth never change!



**Power Verse:**

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”  
– Hebrews 13:8



**Whatchagaddaknow:**

“Jesus Christ Will Never Change!”

**Lesson 1 Materials Needed:**

**“The Spark” Intro Video**

- “Lesson 1 - The Spark” Intro Video

**“Whatchagaddaknow” Video**

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

**Character Skit**

- “Patty Promise” Theme Graphic/Music

**Offering Time**

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

**Game Time!**

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Hide and Seek” Graphic
- Twelve envelopes
- Twelve pieces of paper with various point amounts on them

**Bible Story**

- “Jesus Forgives A Sinful Woman” Graphics

**Power Verse Video**

- “Lesson 1 Power Verse” Video

**Call To Action**

- “Jesus Never Changes” Graphics
- A cell phone
- A photo of you when you were younger
- An item that was popular a year ago but it is no longer popular

**Rewind!**

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 1 Graphics

**Small Group Experience**

- Bible Story Print Piece
- Bible
- Jesus Never Changes Print Piece
- Pencils, crayons, or markers

**“The Spark” Intro Video**

“Hammer Time!”

**“Whatchagaddaknow” Video**

Big Ray teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”

**Character Skit**

“Patty Promise”

**Offering Time**

**Game Time!**

“Hide And Seek”

**Bible Story**

“Jesus Forgives A Sinful Woman”

**Power Verse Video**

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” – Hebrews 13:8

**Call To Action**

“Jesus Never Changes”

**Rewind!**

Review Game

**Small Group Experience**



## **Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video**

**Leader:** Hey, kids! Welcome to our series, “Power Promises!” This series is all about some of the amazing promises God made to us in the Bible!

Have you ever had someone make a promise to you but not keep it? Isn’t that so frustrating?

Maybe your parent promised to take you to your favorite pizza place but then ended up being too busy. Maybe your friend promised to let you borrow their favorite video game, but then they changed their mind. What is something you were promised but didn’t get?

*(have a few kids each share a quick example of something they were promised but didn’t receive)*

It is super hard when someone doesn’t keep their promises. But here’s some really good news - God always keeps His promises. There are many promises He made in the Bible that He is STILL keeping today! We are going to learn about one of those promises today. Right now, I want you to check out this video!

**(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 1”)**

**Leader:** Boy, change can really be hard to deal with. When things change, we aren’t always ready for it. That’s why it is so important to remember that Jesus NEVER changes. It’s true. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. That is the promise we are learning about today!

You’re going to learn all about how Jesus’ love, power, and truth never change. It’s so comforting to know that the God who keeps His promises never changes! Right now, we need to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

**(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)**



## CHARACTER SKIT

**Character: “Patty Promise”** *(an energetic, odd lady who makes many promises but rarely follows through with them)*

**PATTY:** *(enters, looking around swiftly; runs over to leader excitedly; makes lots of hand motions)* I PROMISE you aren't gonna believe this! They have changed everything around in the grocery store. Cookies where the broccoli used to be, toilet paper where the dog treats were on aisle 7. Can you believe it?!

**Leader:** Hello, Patty Promise! Sure, I believe it. They change it around occasionally to “optimize the shopping experience,” or so they say. *(shrugs)*

**PATTY:** Well, I just can't take ALL this change. I can PROMISE you that I won't be grocery shopping any longer. No way! No how! No siree, Bob!

**Leader:** *(amused)* Well, I don't think that's a good promise to make because everyone needs groceries. I'm sorry all the change has upset you. You want to know something that NEVER CHANGES?

**PATTY:** *(excited)* Yes! Please tell me about something that NEVER CHANGES so I can find some stability and peace in these crazy and changing times.

**Leader:** *(smiles warmly)* You got it. JESUS NEVER CHANGES! The Bible teaches us that He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Jesus' LOVE, POWER and TRUTH never change!

**PATTY:** *(clapping and jumping)* Yes! It's so wonderful and comforting to know that Jesus' love, power and truth stay the same! If only the grocery store could be like Jesus....

**Leader:** Yeah! Wait...what?

**PATTY:** *(serious)* Well, I wish the grocery store would never change. I wish the strawberries were always in the front so it would smell like strawberries when you enter.

**Leader:** Hmm? What does it smell like right now when you enter the grocery store?

**PATTY:** *(shakes head disapprovingly)* Well, now that they have changed it all around, the first thing you smell is the STINKY CHEESE!

**Leader:** *(scrunches nose)* Eww! I agree that strawberries would be a nicer smell.

**PATTY:** Oh, I *promise* you they do not know what they are doing. The last time I was there, I was picking out a cucumber when, all of a sudden, “SSHHHPPPSHHSHS” - I was being sprayed with water like a rose bush in July!

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## CHARACTER SKIT

(continued)

**Leader:** *(laughing)* Haha, that’s just the automatic water spray to keep the veggies fresh.

**PATTY:** Well, they might want to be more careful. I PROMISE they are going to turn that store into a giant swimming pool if they keep spraying water like that!

**Leader:** I am pretty sure that won’t happen. They know what they are doing.

**PATTY:** *(skeptical)* I don’t know. I can picture it now - I promise! *(pretends to swim with arms)* Oh, hi, Mrs. Smith. Did you see the new flavor of ice cream? It’s just over those rapids.

**Leader:** *(smiles)* You have a good imagination, Patty Promise, but I’m pretty sure the veggie sprayer won’t turn the store into a giant pool with rapids.

**PATTY:** Do you PROMISE? Because I do not want to have to out-swim a shark to get some goldfish crackers. I could do it, I promise, but I don’t want to do it. You understand? It would embarrass the shark.

**Leader:** WOW! Your imagination just leveled up from good to great. I think it’s safe for me to promise you won’t have to out-swim a shark in the grocery store.

**PATTY:** Oooo, you know, on second thought, I love to kayak. I could totally see myself kayaking down the aisles for my groceries. *(claps)* How much FUN would that be?!

**Leader:** *(thinks)* I think I’d prefer to keep my grocery shopping and kayaking separate.

**PATTY:** *(excited)* No, no. I PROMISE the next big change in grocery stores will be kayaking instead of walking through the store. Of course, everyone would need to wear a life jacket for safety.

**Leader:** *(shakes head)* Well, safety is important!

**PATTY:** *(smiles)* Yes, yes! Listen, I PROMISE this will be the new “shopping experience.” I have some phone calls to make. I’ll see you later. Bye! *(exits as her theme music plays, excitedly motioning like she is paddling in a kayak while shopping)*

**Leader:** *(smiles)* That’s not a good promise. I’m pretty sure that won’t be the new “shopping experience.” *(scratches head while watching PP “shop”)* Is she pretending to shop in a kayak? So weird. Bye, Patty Promise! Kids, I am glad the promise from God that we are learning in our Power Verse is MUCH better than Patty’s promises! Today, we are learning about the promise that “Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”



# GAME TIME

## “Hide And Seek”

### Items Needed For Game:

twelve envelopes; twelve pieces of paper with various amounts written on them

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### Preparation:

Before the game, seal the pieces of paper in the envelopes. Then (*preferably while no one is looking*), hide the envelopes in various places all over the room (*taped under chairs, behind doors, in plants, etc.*).

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### How To Play:

Choose three boys and three girls (*or any number you wish*) to play this game. When you say, “Go,” all the players will run around the room, frantically looking for the hidden envelopes. Explain to them that there are twelve envelopes, each with different point amounts in them. They **ARE NOT ALLOWED** to open their envelopes until the game is over. Once the music is over (*or all envelopes have been found*), invite the kids to bring their envelopes up to the front. Open the envelopes, one at a time, and total the number of points each team has earned. The team with the most points wins!



# Bible Story

## “Jesus Forgives A Sinful Woman”

### Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 1; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

### Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the description of events in John 8:1-11; have your open Bible as you tell the story

### The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is found in John 8:1-11. It’s a story that demonstrates Jesus’ love for others - no matter who they are or what they’ve done. One day, Jesus was teaching a group of people all about God. Right in the middle of His teaching, a group of Pharisees showed up. Pharisees were the religious leaders of Jesus’ day. They were the ones who were supposed to be setting the example for others to follow. Their way of doing things was considered the truly spiritual way.

(*show pic*) The Pharisees showed up with a woman. This woman had done some very bad things. She was the girlfriend of some men who were already married. Not only was she sinning, but she was helping others to sin as well. That’s pretty bad. So one of the Pharisees said to Jesus, “The law says we should stone her. What do YOU say?”

To “stone” someone meant that they took a bunch of large rocks and threw them at the person over and over until they died. Isn’t that mean? These Pharisees wanted to deal with this woman very harshly. So they asked Jesus, “What do you say we are to do with her?” They were trying to trap Jesus. They knew He was a man of love and compassion. They knew He was kind and gentle to others.

So what did Jesus do? He said nothing. (*show pic*) Instead, He bent down and began to write in the dirt with His finger. The Bible doesn’t say what He was writing, but when He was done, He looked up and said, (*show pic*) “Whoever one of you has never sinned, throw the first stone.” Hmmmm. What do you think the Pharisees did? One by one, they began to drop their stones and walk away. Why do you think they walked away? It was because they knew all of them had sinned. They didn’t want that kind of judgement on themselves, so they weren’t about to give that kind of judgement to the woman.

Jesus wanted to display an attitude of grace toward others - even those who had sinned. Instead of dealing out harsh punishment, Jesus forgave the woman. (*show pic*) He gently spoke to the woman and said, “Go, and leave your life of sin.”

In our lesson today, we are going to learn that Jesus is the same, today, as He was back then. He still loves, gives grace, and has the same power as He always has. Jesus never changes.





# Call To Action

## “Jesus Never Changes”

### Materials Needed:

The “Jesus Never Changes” graphics; a cell phone; a photo of you when you were younger; an item that was popular a year ago but is no longer popular

### Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled “Jesus Never Changes”



### The Message: *(title slide)*

Have you ever noticed just how much things change? Think about it! You can probably think of things that were popular a year ago that nobody even thinks about anymore. *(show the item that was used to be popular but no longer is)* For a while, it’s all anybody was talking about. Now, nobody talks about it. Things change.

Clothing changes. Take a look at some of the clothing styles people used to wear. *(show pic)*



Cars change. You’ve seen a lot of cool cars driving around, right? Today, there are some pretty amazing cars. But take a look at what one of the earliest cars looked like. *(show pic)*



Technology changes. *(pull your cell phone out)* This is what a cell phone looks like today. You are used to being able to use a cell phone to get on the internet, watch videos, play games, and do all kinds of stuff. But that wasn’t always the case. You also can fit cell phones in your pocket today. But take a look at at what the VERY FIRST cell phone looked like. *(show pic)*



People change. You don’t look the same today as you looked a few years ago. You know what? Neither do I. Check out this photo of me when I was a kid. *(show pic)* I know! Isn’t that crazy?

Things just don’t stay the same for very long. They are constantly changing. Sometimes, people change. Have you ever had a friend who changed and, as a result, stopped being your friend? That hurts, doesn’t it?

Well, our Power Promise for today is all about someone who NEVER changes. What does our Power Promise say? “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” – **Hebrews 13:8** What a great promise. No matter how much everything around us changes, Jesus stays the same. So what does that mean for us? It means...

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## Call To Action (Continued)

### Jesus' Love Never Changes *(slide)*



The same love that we learned about in today's Bible Story - that same love is available to you today. Just as Jesus loved the woman that everyone else thought was “too bad” and “too sinful,” Jesus still loves those who others consider unlovable. No matter who you are or what you've done, Jesus loves you! His love never changes. Not only that, but...

### Jesus' Power Never Changes *(slide)*



Jesus has not lost His power. As we get older, we tend to become weaker. We can't run as fast or jump as high when we are old. Jesus has been around since the beginning of time - and He is just as powerful today as He ever was. He can still perform the same miracles. His power never changes.

And finally...

### Jesus' Truth Never Changes *(slide)*



We live in a world that thinks truth changes. They think that the truth found in the Bible just doesn't apply anymore. They think that human beings can make up their own truth. But Jesus clearly told us in *John 14:6*, “I am the way, the TRUTH, and the life...” Jesus IS truth. He never changes, and His truth never changes.

The words in the Bible are still as important today as they were thousands of years ago. Jesus' truth never changes.

What a great Power Promise! Jesus never changes. He still loves you the same today as He always has. He wants to be your Lord and Savior. That hasn't changed. That will never change.

### ALTAR RESPONSE *(play soft music)*

Pray with the kids that need to experience Jesus' love, power, and truth. Pray that they will accept His love and make Him their Lord and Savior.



**REWIND!**

**Materials Needed:**

“REWIND!” Lesson 1 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

**Preparation:**

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

**1. Whatchagaddaknow today?**

**Answer:** “Jesus Christ Will Never Change!”

**2. Who brought the woman to Jesus in our Bible Story?**

**Answer:** The Pharisees

**3. What did the Pharisees want to do with the woman?**

**Answer:** Stone her

**4. What did Jesus do in the dirt?**

**Answer:** Wrote something

**5. What did the Pharisees do with their rocks?**

**Answer:** Dropped them

**6. Did Jesus forgive the woman’s sin?**

**Answer:** Yes

**7. According to our lesson today, “Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ Never Changes.”**

**Answer:** Love

**8. According to our lesson today, “Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ Never Changes.”**

**Answer:** Power

**9. According to our lesson today, “Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ Never Changes.”**

**Answer:** Truth

**10. Where was our Power Verse found?**

**Answer:** Hebrews 13:8