

Today's Reading: Mark 9:2-8

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one¹ on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

Simple Summary (for Parents):

In today's passage, usually referred to as "the transfiguration," Jesus took Peter, James, and John up on a "high mountain" and gave them a unique glimpse of His divine glory. The disciples not only saw Jesus's radiant clothes, but they also saw Him talking with Moses and Elijah. When Peter blurted out the idea of building tents for Jesus, Elijah, and Moses (because he was terrified and didn't know what to say), God made it clear who they should fix their attention on: "This is my beloved Son; listen to Him." Just as He did at Jesus's baptism, God the Father identifies Jesus as His "beloved Son" (Mark 1:11). Jesus is greater than Moses and Elijah, for He is the fulfillment of all that the Old Testament looked forward to. With the cross in the near future, the disciples needed to know that this Man they were following was indeed the Son of God who would come in glory to judge the living and the dead.

Discuss:**1. Why were the disciples so scared on the mountain in today's story?**

(Explain to your children that the disciples had never seen Jesus in His glory like this. God's glory is so great that we cannot comprehend it or take it in!)

2. The disciples also saw Elijah and Moses talking to Jesus. Who are Elijah and Moses?

(Explain to your children that these were great prophets God used in the Old Testament. You might mention some great things God did through them, such as leading His people through the Red Sea in Exodus 14 and sending down fire from heaven in 1 Kings 18).

3. God told the disciples to listen to Jesus. What makes Jesus greater than Moses and Elijah?

(Moses and Elijah were great prophets, but Jesus is God's only Son. He is fully divine, and everything God did through Moses and Elijah was so that we would know Jesus!)

4. Jesus would soon be rejected and crucified. How would today's story have helped the disciples to trust in Jesus when times were difficult?

(Seeing Jesus's radiant glory and hearing the Father call Jesus His "beloved Son" would have encouraged them to continue following Jesus, even when it was costly.)

5. Today's story tells us that God spoke from heaven. How do we hear God speak today?

(Today we hear God when we read the Bible or hear it preached. The Bible tells us about Jesus, so we don't have to go up on a mountain to hear a voice from heaven!)

Pray:

Ask God to help you see Jesus for who He truly is—the Son of God. Pray that He would help you to hear and obey the teachings of Jesus.

Sing:

["A Mighty Fortress"](#) (See Week 2 Song Sheet for lyrics)