

The Transfiguration of our Lord

For Group Meetings Between February 7 and February 13

Prayer of the Day: Risen Lord, you are working in our lives every day, using us to accomplish your will for the world. Keep us from being afraid, and give us the confidence to walk boldly in the Way of Jesus. Amen.

BIBLICAL EQUIPPING TOGETHER:

Share: How did last week's scripture (Luke 5:1-11) work in your life this week?

Mission: What was most satisfying about your ministry last week? Where do you see God at work? How did you participate in God's missional activity? **How did welcoming go last Sunday?**

Hear: Luke 9:28-36 (Silence before and after reading.)

Explore Questions: (Use these or develop your own.)

1. What happened while Jesus was praying? What did the 3 disciples see?
2. What was Peter's sleepy comment? What does Luke say about his proposal?
3. How did the disciples feel about the cloud? What was their response to the voice?

Connect Questions: (Use these or develop your own.)

1. What insights was Jesus getting through his prayer on the mountain? Describe what happens when you pray. When is praying most difficult for you?
2. Why do you suppose Peter said what he did? What happens when you speak up and don't know what you are talking about? When is that most likely to happen?
3. Do you think the disciples understood what had happened to them on the mountain? Why? How well do you understand what God is doing in your life right now? What is God doing in your life?

Prepare: Let's take some time to think about what we've learned. In what way do you hear God calling on you to obey, something you might work on in the coming week? Is there a portion of scripture you feel called to meditate on? Jot down whatever you decide to work on.

BIBLICAL EQUIPPING APART:

Obey: During this week follow through on your intentions.

Meditate: Read Exodus 34:29-35. What is the Spirit saying to you? **Reflect:** What have I learned in my week of living with this text? What can I share with my group when we next meet?

OUR MISSION TOGETHER: We celebrate Christ's presence, invite people into a growing relationship with Jesus, and equip them to serve in a broken world.

BIBLICAL EQUIPPING NOTES FOR CHRISTCARE LEADERS

Luke 9:28-36

The story of the transfiguration of Jesus is one of Lent's bookends. The other of course is Easter! On this mountain three of the disciples got a glimpse of his glory and it was so spectacular they couldn't even find words to describe it from their side of Easter.

Jesus was praying on the mountain, a daily exercise for him, and on this particular day the inner core of disciples was with him. In his prayers he was receiving insights about his future from Israel's past represented by Moses (Law) and Elijah (Prophets). Doubtless he was trying to get some clarity for his mission. The disciples, barely awake, are baffled by what they see, and totally miss the point. Immediately a cloud overshadows them and they are terrified. The words they hear give scarce comfort and they leave the mountain tongue-tied, which in Peter's case was quite remarkable.

On this day the church celebrates the transcendent glory of Jesus, visible even in this world for those who have eyes to see. Even though we're not dead yet we can glimpse hints of the indescribable life which is to come.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those
Who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are yours,
Now and forever. Amen.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified died and was buried;
He descended to the dead,
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen

