



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

How Good, Lord, to Be Here! February 25th-27th, 2017

(Matthew 17:1-9)

17 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

⁴ Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

1. Have you ever been on a vacation you didn’t want to come home from? Why was it such a great vacation? Was it harder or easier to go back to the “real life” routine once you were back?

2. The events of the Transfiguration are about a week after the events that take place in Matthew 16, where Peter experiences his highest high (confession of faith, vs. 16) and his lowest low (rebuke by Jesus, vs. 22-23). After those two events, why would Peter’s presence at the Transfiguration be so important for him?
3. Why do you think Moses and Elijah were the two men who appeared with Christ at the Transfiguration? What’s the significant symbolism God is trying to get across?
4. Luke’s gospel tells us that Peter “didn’t know what he was saying” when he spoke the words in vs. 4. Based on his reaction to Jesus’ teaching on suffering and death, what do you think drives Peter’s desire to “stay up there on the mountain”?
5. The Transfiguration was intended to give significant comfort and reassurance to the disciples. In what ways would it also have been beneficial for Jesus?
6. Make a list of the things we learn about Jesus from the events of the Transfiguration. How does that knowledge help us to face the fears of life in the world?
7. Why do you think Jesus, at this point, didn’t want his disciples to tell anyone about what they’d seen? However, what does his wording show us he wanted to be done eventually? How can we apply those words to our own life?