



## A Glimpse of Glory

Matthew 17:1-13

### Kicking It Off:

If you had been present at the Transfiguration, what do you think would've been your first reaction?

### Key Objectives:

We have three key objectives to guide our discussion:

#### 1. To Understand the Significance of the Transfiguration

Our first objective centers on grasping the monumental impact of the Transfiguration. Why did it happen, and what does it tell us about Jesus? Is it merely a spectacular visual, or does it have deeper implications for our Christian faith? We'll explore how this event shifts our perceptions of Jesus from merely a teacher or miracle-worker to the Son of God, embodying both divine and human natures.

#### 2. To Explore the Tension Between Earthly and Heavenly Realities

Next, we'll delve into the dichotomy of the earthly and the heavenly. We live our everyday lives focused on earthly matters, whether it's work, family, or social issues. But the Transfiguration invites us to think about the heavenly dimension. How do we hold these two realms in tension in our daily lives? Can we be citizens of Earth and yet live with a heavenly perspective?

#### 3. To Discuss the Role of Fear, Awe, and Reverence in Our Faith Journey

Lastly, we'll be talking about the complex emotions of fear, awe, and reverence that often intersect with our faith journey. The disciples were terrified during the Transfiguration—so what role does "fear of the Lord" play in our lives? Is it an antiquated concept or an essential aspect of a deep, mature faith? How do awe and reverence contribute to our spiritual growth?

### Discussion:

1. What do you think was going through the disciples' minds as they witnessed Jesus' transformation? How would your understanding of Jesus change if you were there?
2. Discuss Peter's reaction to build tents. Why do you think he suggested that? Do you think Peter's response is indicative of our human need to "do" something in divine moments?
3. Can you relate to Peter's tendency to focus on earthly practicalities? How can we train ourselves to be more attuned to heavenly realities?
4. The voice from heaven invokes fear and awe in the disciples. How do you understand the concept of the "fear of the Lord"?
5. The Transfiguration illustrates that Jesus exists in both earthly and spiritual realms. How does this challenge or affirm your understanding of the Christian faith?
6. How can we apply this dual-realm reality in our daily lives? How do we manage the tension of being citizens of Earth and yet live with a heavenly perspective?

### Reminders:

- The Small Group Leader Meeting will be Sunday 9/24 after service. Lunch will be provided. For current and new leaders.