

Luke 9:28-36

"The Transfiguration"

Pastor Steve McGuyre 3-10-2024

Consult the Scriptures:

Luke 9:28-36

Discuss:

Opening Question:

Share with us, as far as you can remember, what was the first spiritual thought or experience you had. Who was it that first talked to you about Jesus and the Gospel?

Some questions about the Apostle Peter:

What is it about Peter that makes him seem relatable?

Why do you think he was so quick to suggest that booths/tents be made for Jesus and their visitors?

When he said this, the Bible says he did not know what he said. Have you had an experience like this where you were so discombobulated that you just said the first random thing that came to your mind?

There is no doubt that Peter struggled with a type of self confidence that led to Pride. How do you distinguish between having a healthy self-image and just "being full of yourself"? (Leaders: the key here is whether your focus is on yourself (pride) or others (humility))

Peter would have to learn the Jesus way of humility the hard way. What vignette in Peter's story with Jesus stands out the most to you?

J.I. Packer said, "For the fact that we have to face is this: that if we pursue theological knowledge for its own sake, it is bound to go bad on us. IT WILL MAKE US PROUD AND CONCEITED. The very greatness of the subject matter will intoxicate us, and we shall come to think of ourselves as a cut above other Christians because of our interest in it and grasp of it; and we shall look down on those whose theological ideas seem to be crude and inadequate, and dismiss them as very poor specimens."

Have you been aware of this kind of "spiritual pride" in your own life? How do you feel when you see it in others?

C.S. Lewis said that Pride is the greatest of all sins. He points out that it is what made the devil the devil, and it is the thing we despise in others simply because we struggle with it ourselves.

Since you were little, how has pride impacted your life?
What, in your opinion, is the cure to a life of ungodly pride?
(Leaders: in the sermon Steve pointed out the impact of Scripture, especially Proverbs and the Sermon on the Mount, along with prayer, so note that Jesus went up to the mountain to pray when the Transfiguration happened. Fellowship is also helpful. When we associate with humble people it makes us more humble).

Give time at the end for repentance and prayer for each of us to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God as Peter said in 1 Peter 5.