

Mark 9:2-10 (NIV)

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵ Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷ Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!”

⁸ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. ¹⁰ They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what “rising from the dead” meant.

Sermon for February 11, 2024: www.collegechurch.org/college-church-online

KNOW ... *God and his Word.*

- Our Scripture passage begins with these three words, “After six days ...” What happened six days ago? Read Mark 8:27-35. What was that conversation about? How does Mark 9:2-10 relate to the previous passage?
- According to Miriam-Webster’s dictionary, transfiguration means “a change in form or appearance.” Describe Jesus’ transfiguration as told by Mark. Verse 4 tells us Elijah and Moses appeared on the mountaintop and talked with Jesus. Who were these men and what role did they play in God’s story (the Bible)? Why do you think they were present in this transfiguration moment with Jesus?
- Read verse 7 together. Who’s speaking from the clouds? Where else in Scripture do we read similar words to what was spoken here? Compare and contrast that occasion and what is transpiring here in this passage (i.e. circumstances, words spoken, who heard it). What does the voice command the disciples in this passage to do?
- Jesus took three of his disciples with him onto the mountain. Why do you think Jesus chose only three disciples instead of one or all 12? What did their trip up the mountain with Jesus achieve? Why do you believe Jesus ordered them not to tell anyone about these events until after his resurrection?

- What stood out to you in this passage or from Pastor Mark's sermon? Discuss any additional insights, thoughts or questions you may have.

ACT ... *responding to & applying what we know.*

- What do you *imagine* Elijah and Moses talked to Jesus about in these moments of Jesus' earthly mission in the presence of God?

Think back to a time in your life when God sent friends to speak to you in your faith journey or when God's presence was manifest (evident). Who spoke to you and what did they say? How was God's presence made evident to you? Share your testimony with someone, praising God for how he showed up, revealing himself to you or providing companions in a particular moment in your life.

- The incredible, glorious, mountaintop experience with Jesus had to come to an end. There was more in God's mission to be done, a cross-bearing existence to live into ... people who needed Jesus, needed to know Jesus in the valley below. Are you willing to keep serving in the valley?

Describe and contrast mountaintop and valley life. How is God calling you to bear your cross in the valley right now? Who do you know that needs Jesus? Pray for them now, asking God to reveal himself to them.

BE ... *living in light of what we've heard, becoming more like Christ.*

Like the disciples on the mountaintop with Jesus, we must wrestle with what we have been entrusted with about who Jesus is. Like those disciples, we must also decide how we are going to live in response to what we know.

Begin this week by GIVING THANKS to God for drawing close to you, for sharing his story with us through his Word and for what he is revealing about himself to you as you walk with him.

CONSIDER how you are currently living in response to the knowledge that Jesus is the beloved Son of God, the Messiah, the One sent to us to redeem and save us. ASK the Holy Spirit to make clear one or two ways that you can live and serve this week as a response to what you know. GO! Live and serve in obedience to the Spirit's leading and in the truth of what you know about Jesus.

KEEP becoming more like Jesus!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Angela

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