

# **Growth Group Questions**

*Transfiguration Sunday, February 19, 2023*

## **Introduction**

Transfiguration is the bridge between Epiphany and Lent. Jesus shows his disciples the reality of his glory, perhaps to give them confidence for the dark days to come. How does God prepare us in advance to endure difficult times?

## **Into the Word** – Exodus 24:9-18

1. Use your imagination to think about what must have been going through the minds of Moses and the elders as they saw God and ate and drank.
2. In a certain sense, this lesson shows the glory of the LORD from the perspective of power. Why is the response of most people in Scripture who see God total fear and dread?

## **Into the Word** – 2 Peter 1:16-21

3. As a member of Jesus' "inner circle" Peter was uniquely blessed as "an eyewitness to his majesty" to know Jesus in greater measure than most. What events had helped Peter know Jesus?
4. Peter doesn't only put his confidence in those things he had seen himself. He also trusts in the prophetic message. Why did Peter trust God's Word?
5. Verses 20-21 are the most important in all of Scripture to help us understand God's "verbal inspiration" of the Bible. Why is it so important to know that God was doing the speaking, and men were just carried along by the Spirit?

## **Into the Word** – Matthew 17:1-9

6. It's important that the word here us "transfiguration" and not "transformation." All that changes is Jesus' appearance, not his nature. How do we know that Jesus always remained powerful God of glory, even during his time of humble service to redeem us?
7. Any theories on why God chose Moses and Elijah to be the ones to talk with Jesus? (The other Gospel accounts tell us that they were talking with Jesus about what was about to happen to him.)
8. This is the second time the Father voices his approval over Jesus. (Also at his baptism.) Thinking of what Jesus had to earn to bring us sinners to heaven, why is this message so comforting to each of us personally? (In other words, who is God essentially saying he approves of?)
9. Once again, sinful people (this time the disciples) fell down in fear at the glory of God. This time, Jesus touches them and tells them not to be afraid. We're not into allegory, but it's a really interesting picture of Jesus bringing us in love to a perfect and holy God. No question this time, just enjoy the grace of God. 😊
10. Why would Jesus tell the disciples not to tell anyone what they saw? What important work needed to be done first?

## **Closing Prayer**

Jesus, your love is our righteousness. Bless us to live in hope and peace forever.