

The Transfiguration

Mark 9:1-13

Into the Lesson:

The word translated "transfigured" (metamorphoo) is found only four times in the New Testament. Read each of the following verses and develop a working definition in relation to the theme of Discipleship:

Matthew 17:2-
Mark 9:2-
Romans 12:2-
II Corinthians 3:18-

Google Raphael's "The Transfiguration" for a visual depiction of this scene. (would make an amazing full back tattoo but I'd be inclined to include "Where's Waldo")

Into the Word:

Compare Moses and Elijah's "transfigure" experiences before this one.

Exodus 34:33-35-
II Kings 2:7-11-
II Chronicles 5:13-14 (for those who have been keeping up with the "Through the Bible" reading)-

Do you think these events even entered the thoughts of Peter, James and John?

From Sam's sermon, what is the explanation for the differing time frame between this account (v.2) and Luke 9:28?

How does the, "...the parallel to Exodus 24:15-18" fit into the picture?

From the "discipleship" perspective, as you reread Mark 9:1-13, make note of the verses that focuses on:

"Big Picture" discipleship-
The more focused aspects of discipleship-

How would this event have been a source of strengthening and encouragement for Jesus? Compare with:

John 17:5-
Mark 14:62-

How does Mark 9:5-6 provide another glimpse of the Disciples "cluelessness"?

Why didn't v.7, combined with Mark 1:11 enable them to make the connection?

Respond to Sam's quote, "In reality, they aren't waiting for the Messiah, they are waiting for Elijah."

How would this have influenced the Disciples, and centuries of Jewish understanding?

Into Life:

What does the reality of Matthew 18:19-20 and Acts 1:8 do for our own "transfigure" experience?

How does this reality, plus the fact that we have been afforded "The Big Picture" of Discipleship impact our ministry in our spheres of influence?

How would our personal worship and prayer time change if we were continually aware of the presence of God in our lives?

What about our corporate times of fellowship and worship (should Lane be looking at buying a fog machine)?

How does the reality that, "God is Progressively Working to Transform Us and Our Sinful Failures" provide encouragement when it feels like we have fallen on our faces?

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

- Romans 12:1-2