

The Journey to Eternity
Week 1 | Jan. 4/5, 2014

Seeing the Real Jesus
Mark 9:2-13



Jesus' transfiguration gives Peter, James and John (and us) a glimpse into a stunning display of His divine glory and His relationship with the Father. The Greek word for *transfiguration* is *metamorphoo* which has been anglicized into the word "metamorphosis" or "radical change." Mark 9 is a great place for us to start off 2014!

Read Mark 9:2-13.

It was through Moses that God gave his people the law and Elijah was the greatest of the prophets.

[Q] What is the significance of these two men from Israel's past appearing with Jesus in Mark 9:4?

Read Matthew 5:17 as you consider your answer.

*Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets;
I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.*

Matthew 5:17 NIV

This is my Son, whom I love.

[Q] We might expect the voice from Heaven to say, "look how amazing and glorious He is!" What does it say instead (Mark 9:7)?

[Q] Why would this be important for both Jesus and the disciples at this time?

Compare this with what God says in Mark 1:11:

And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Mark 1:11 NIV

If you are in Christ, He says the same thing of you. You are loved just as Christ is.

[Q] Read the following passages noting in what way you are loved and by whom:

John 15:9-11

John 17:22-23

In her book, *Because He Loves Me*, Elyse Fitzpatrick develops this reality:

...the truth is that the pronouncement [God] made over [Jesus], "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased", he has now made over us:

"This is my beloved daughter, this is my beloved son, all in whom I am well pleased."

- Will God ever push us away or keep us at arm's length? Would he push his Son away?
- Will God ever fail to hear our prayer? Does he hear his Son's?
- Is he disgusted with us and disappointed that he ever adopted us? Does Jesus disgust and disappoint him?

[Q] How would focusing on this truth (that God loves you just as He loves Jesus) change you?

- when you think God must be disappointed in you?
- when you think He is not listening?
- when you feel unloved by people?

For parents: [Q] how can you communicate this truth to your children?

Listen to Jesus, the Word.

The Father told the disciples to listen to Jesus (Mark 9:7). It is essential for us to listen to Him above every other voice in our lives.

[Q] How do we hear Him? What can we do practically to ensure that we listen to His voice?

[Q] What are some other voices or obstacles you face in listening to Him and how will you deal with them?

Pray
