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## On the road to Emmaus.

### THE STORY: EXO 34:27-30; 2KNG 2.8-14

God established His covenant with Israel by giving them His Law. He told them, “Do this and live.” (Lev 18.5) To get the Law, Moses entered into God’s presence on the mount, and was transformed (or *transfigured*) by it. “The skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God;” others were affected by it. When Elijah was taken into the heavens, his servant Elisha was with him to see the chariots and horses of fire. He made one request of Elijah. He wanted a double-portion of the same Spirit that transformed Elijah into a mighty prophet of God. God granted it, for Elisha asked, “Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?” He saw the evidence of the Spirit’s presence in him when he divided the waters and crossed over. At the Transfiguration, the apostles saw three transformed figures, and they were transformed by it themselves. Later they received the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead (Rom 8.11; Act 2.1-4). Every believer does.

### TALK ABOUT IT:

How do you know that you received the Spirit of God when you professed Christ? (Rom 8.14-16; 1Co 12.3; 1Jo 4.6; Jude 1.19-21.)

What transforms you into Christ’s image? (Rom 8.29, 12.2; 2Co 3.18; Eph 4.22-23 – *the Spirit acting on you, to have you put away sin, and take on godliness.*)

### PRAY:

Praise God that He will carry to completion the work He began in you (Phil 1.6).

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*Our mission at Hope Chapel:*

*To bring glory to God  
Through the transforming of lives  
By the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

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*building children into their parents...  
... and families into the gospel.*

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GET INTO THE STORY

LIFE OF CHRIST • LESSON 17

**JESUS IS TRANFIGURED**

*Jesus Came in his Kingdom and He will Come Again.*



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## The Testimony of the Transfiguration

### THE STORY: MAT 17:1-2

In Mat 16.28, Jesus says, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.” Jesus wasn’t talking about seeing his second coming, but about seeing him in his glory, in the kingdom of God which he ushered in (Mat 12.28) – seeing him for who he is, and as he is, approved of God, pleasing to Him, and able to stand in His presence. This was not for the world to see, not yet. As with Moses and Elijah, this transfiguration took place in private (*Friday’s devotion*). Jesus’ face shone with the light of God-in-him. Even Jesus’ clothes became white as light, just as Daniel saw him in his vision (Dan 10.5-6) and David recorded in his psalm (Ps 104.1-4). Jesus took his three closest disciples with him, and led them up into the mount to see his glory, which others might not see. As believers in Jesus Christ, we are also led to see Jesus on high, in all his glory; it is a glory that not all are permitted to see. Having seen it, however, we must testify of it (2Pet 1.16-17; Joh 1.14).

### TALK ABOUT IT:

What wonderful things may you have seen, that others you know have not seen? How would you convey to them how much it affected you? (*e.g. an ocean at sunset to someone who lives inland; the stars below the equator to someone in the northern hemisphere; a comet in the night sky that won’t return in your lifetime...*)

How did the apostles convey what they saw and heard? (1Cor 1.17-18, *preaching*; 1Joh 1.1-3, *fellowship*; 1Joh 5.1-5, *obedience*)

### PRAY:

Ask and trust God to give you the words you need to convey the truth of Christ.



## The Testimony of the Prophets

### THE STORY: MAT 17:3-4

Jesus is not alone as his glory is revealed (Exo 33.18-19). Moses stands there in the kingdom with him, as does Elijah, in glory. Moses was God's faithful instrument under the reign of the Law, leading his people in righteousness. Elijah was God's faithful instrument under the reign of kings, mighty in Spirit. Jesus will fulfill the Law of the Old Covenant (Mat 5.17), and he will usher in a New Covenant in his blood (Jer 31.31; Lk 22.20), sending his Spirit to inhabit his people (Joh 15.26; 2Cor 3.6). But here, on the mount, the three disciples are awestruck and rattled, not knowing how to respond to something beyond their human experience (Mk 9.5-6). Peter knows that it is good to see their glory. But then, as Moses and Elijah depart (Lk 9.33), he suggests how to honor these three figures equally, as if their glory were equal; or as if it was his choice how to glorify them, rather than God's choice. He doesn't yet grasp the *unique* nature of Jesus.

### TALK ABOUT IT:

Name some things that show Jesus is greater than Moses or Elijah. (e.g. *Joh 10.17-18 resurrection, 10.30; 12.44-45 one with God; 14.6 one way to God; Heb 3.3-6 owner of the house, Heb 4.15 without sin*).

What Bible verses might you use to prove that glory belongs to Jesus alone? (e.g. *Act 4.12; Joh 1.14-15; Phil 2.9*).

### PRAY:

Thank God that there is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.



## Where is the Gospel?

### THE STORY: 2PET 1:10-21

Here is Peter's testimony of what he saw at the transfiguration of Jesus, when the glory due Jesus was revealed to him and to the sons of thunder, James and John (Mk 3.17). Peter doesn't just share what he saw, but how to respond to the truth he reveals. "Therefore... be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election" by supplementing faith in Jesus with virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly affection, and love. Make what you know "fruitful" (5-8). That's how we confirm our calling and election; that's how we give glory to Jesus. This is what adorns the entrance to the eternal kingdom of our Lord. We need

constant reminders of this, so we will be "established in the truth." These are not myths, but eyewitness testimonies that Jesus "received honor and glory from God the Father." They confirm the prophetic word of Scripture which is a light shining in the darkness, spoken by God and not men, through His Spirit.

### TALK ABOUT IT:

What testimony can you give if you're not an eyewitness to Jesus' glory? (*1Cor 2.1-2; 1Joh 5.7-10; the testimony of God; Rev 12.11; and of a devoted life*.)

What are some practical ways "to confirm your calling and election" and to make known "the power and coming of Jesus"? (*2Pet 1.5-9*)

### PRAY:

Ask God to remind you, even through other believers, of your calling and election so that you will not be unfruitful in your knowledge of Jesus.



## The Testimony of God

### THE STORY: MAT 17:5-8

As Peter is still speaking, instead of listening, God interrupts him, as if correcting him. The Father testifies of His Son, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; *listen* to him." At hearing the voice, all three disciples fall on their faces before the Living God, terrified. But Jesus is the Son of Man as well as the Son of God; he is their intercessor and Savior; he came to shelter them from the wrath of God. There is no need to fear God in the presence of Jesus. And so Jesus gently touched them, and gave them permission to rise, telling them not to fear. When they looked up, there was no one to be seen but Jesus, no one to be heard but Jesus. And that is a lesson that every believer would do well to learn.

### TALK ABOUT IT:

Think of a time you spent more time speaking than listening. What resulted? Why should you choose your words carefully? (*Prov 10.8; 13.3; 17.28; 18.7, 21*) How does that apply to the testimony you give to others about Jesus?

How can you ensure that it is God who testifies, and that Jesus is the only one seen and heard? (*Mat 10.19; 1Cor 2.13; 2Tim 2.14-15; 1Th 2.4*)

### PRAY:

Ask God to help you become a student of His word, and to give you the words to speak when you testify of Jesus.