

7th Grade New Testament (Gospels)**Lesson Plan:** The Transfiguration (Luke 9:28-36)**Learning Goals:** Students should be able to define/describe the “Transfiguration” and begin to interpret what it means to see Jesus “in all his glory.”**Question:** What does it mean to see someone in all their glory?

Prayer

Discuss Question on Board

Students should read the following passage and answer the interpretive questions.

Read Matthew 17:1-13

1. What city was nearby where these events took place? (see the previous passage in Matthew 16:13-28)
2. At the foot of what mountain is this city located?
3. Who does Jesus take with him up on the mountain?
4. What does it mean when the scripture says that Jesus was “transfigured” before them?
5. This event describes a situation where Jesus emanated light from the inside out, not that the sun broke through the clouds and reflected off his bright white clothes. Can you think of a person in the Old Testament who radiated light? Where is that story found?
6. Who appeared with Jesus on the top of the mountain?
7. Why do you think these two people appeared? What might they represent?
8. What other signs did the disciples witness that confirmed Jesus’ identity?
9. Can you think of another time in Jesus’ life where we’ve seen a voice from heaven speaking? List the verses where that can be found.
10. How did the disciples respond to the voice from heaven? Why do you think they responded in this way?
11. How was the voice connected to the previous two stories of Peter’s interaction with Jesus? (*see Matthew 16:13-28*)
12. What did Jesus instruct the disciples who saw the transfiguration to do about their experience? Why do you think he told them to do this?
13. Jesus stated that “Elijah had already come.” Who did he mean by this? What do you think he meant by making this connection?

Read the parallel version of this story in Luke 9:28-56 and answer the following questions:

14. Immediately following this “mountaintop” experience, Jesus faces what trial or conflict with Satan?
15. Why do you think Satan frequently attacks us the hardest immediately following “mountaintop” experiences?
16. Why do you think the disciples were unable to help the young boy?
17. What did Jesus predict would happen to him as a result of these things? (see vs. 43-45)
18. The whole direction of Jesus’ ministry changed after this event. Where did “set his face” going forward? (see vs. 51) What do you think that Luke meant by this?

“What [the disciples] could know and needed to accept was that the transfiguration was a divine verification of the confession and passion prediction made at Caesarea Philippi. It was God’s seal of approval, the heavenly ratification, of Jesus’ teaching concerning his messianic calling. Jesus was indeed the Christ, the Son of God. . . . The disciples dare not force Jesus’ mission into their own mode of thinking. On the contrary, they must ‘listen to him.’ They must not try to make Jesus into a messiah that met with their approval” (Robert Stein, p. 174)

Lesson Summary/Review:

Students should review and highlight the following vocabulary terms and concepts from this lesson in their notes:

- Transfiguration
- Who appeared with Jesus at the Transfiguration? Why were they important? What did they represent?
- Who were the three disciples that were part of Jesus’ “inner circle” - that accompanied him at the Transfiguration?