

January 31, 2021

Transformation

Luke 9:23-36

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



*"Then He said to them all,
"If anyone desires to come after Me,
let him deny himself,
and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.
For whoever desires to*

SAVE

*his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it"*

(Luke 9:23-24)

This week in Luke chapter 9 we see two familiar passages. The first is the call to discipleship when Jesus tells the disciples that they must pick up their cross and follow Him. This would not have been easy for the disciples to understand as it took place before Jesus goes to the cross. It is a hard teaching for us today as well when we consider the challenges of following Jesus. The second part of the passage we are looking at is the Transfiguration when Jesus is transformed and talks with Moses and Elijah. It is good for the disciples to see the glory of the transformed Lord after being challenged with this difficult teaching. We must also remember the brilliance and glory of the Lord as we face the challenges of walking in His ways. Join us this week as we seek the glory of the Lord.

A Call to Discipleship

23 Then he said to them all, “If anyone wants to become my follower, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me. 24 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. 25 For what does it benefit a person if he gains the whole world but loses or forfeits himself? 26 For whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. 27 But I tell you most certainly, there are some standing here who will not experience death before they see the kingdom of God.”

The Transfiguration

28 Now about eight days after these sayings, Jesus took with him Peter, John, and James, and went up the mountain to pray. 29 As he was praying, the appearance of his face was transformed, and his clothes became very bright, a brilliant white. 30 Then two men, Moses and Elijah, began talking with him. 31 They appeared in glorious splendor and spoke about his departure that he was about to carry out at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and those with him were quite sleepy, but as they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. 33 Then as the men were starting to leave, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three shelters, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah” – not knowing what he was saying. 34 As he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. 35 Then a voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, my Chosen One. Listen to him!” 36 After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. So they kept silent and told no one at that time anything of what they had seen.

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. What does Jesus mean when He says to take up your cross and follow Him?

9. How do we save our life by losing it? (verse 24)

10. Why did Jesus take Peter, John, and James up the mountain?

11. Why do you think Moses and Elijah were the two to come and talk with Jesus?

12. What type of shelters did Peter want to make?

13. What does the transformation into a bright and brilliant white signify?

③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

14. What parts of your life might you need to deny in order to follow Jesus?

15. What type of sacrifice should we be prepared to make when following Jesus?

16. What does the transfiguration teach the disciples? What relationship does the call to follow have with seeing the transfiguration?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

Sermon Notes