

Instructions

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and pick 3-5 questions to discuss, which pertain to your group's unique needs and style.

For the video related questions, look up the video in RightNow Media. You can do this on a phone, tablet, computer, or SmartTV device. You can easily find the video by clicking on the "Revolution Church" channel within the app. If you or a group member needs access to RightNow Media, please email info@revolutionky.org.

Series Synopsis

Is this over yet? Are we there yet? Are we really starting Lent... AGAIN? Some days we may still feel lost in the wilderness of last Lent or virtual everything, going around in circles, or just plain stuck. And the yet the season of Lent invites us into an intentional time of journeying with God, even finding God, in the busyness of life. It is a time of holy preparation that can bring new life and renewal as we seek God's presence in the midst of it all. Join us this Lent as we journey with Christ through his own time of preparation from his wilderness temptation to the cross. We will stop along the familiar "places" of his ministry to find ourselves in the same places of invitation and longing, and discover how Christ accomplishes, not exactly what we expect, but always what we need. What is the way through? How do we take the next step? By placing our trust in God and in God alone.

Message Synopsis

"For in him the fullness of God was pleased to dwell," Colossians 1:19. The transfiguration of Jesus on the mountain top is a shocking and beautiful story. It interrupts all the talk of crucifixion and death and impending suffering in the gospel of Matthew with a flash of light. Jesus shines before them, he literally glows, and Peter, James, and John are transfixed. It was so glorious that they couldn't look right at him! There are moments of encounter in our journeys of faith that are so powerful and overwhelming that we wish we could just stay in that glow forever; to not have to enter back into a dark and broken reality. But yet the call of Jesus also comes in those moments to go, to carry this same light that is so marvelous and glorious that it will continue to light up the darkness with hidden beauty and grace. In these places of deep encounter, there is always a call to GO!

Key Scriptures

Matthew 17:1-13

Questions Related to This Week's Message

1. Share a story about one of your places of encounter where you most clearly experienced God's presence. Where were you? What happened? How did you leave that place changed?
2. Our expectations of Jesus and our experiences of Jesus are not always the same. Often, we expect to always encounter God on the mountain-top, glowing and shiny bright, glorious. And yet Jesus is the one who shows up along the way, who sojourns with us, especially in the valleys. The journey of faith, of course, is not all mountaintops and sunshine and rainbows. When have you encountered Christ in a valley? How can we learn to better recognize Jesus in the harder places?
3. The call of Christ comes to the disciples; go, do not fear, share the light! He touches them and ignites them with power and love and spirit. To be sources of hidden beauty in light in a really tough world. Where have you experienced unexpected beauty and light during this pandemic? Where do you have an opportunity to be that for someone else?

Worship Together

This week's video is not a teaching, but a song to experience and use in worship. Take some time to listen (and sing along if you'd like) and reflect on this song. If God speaks to you during this song, consider sharing what He says to you with your group. Then take some time to pray for one another, that you would encounter God this week and that others would encounter God through you.

"Transfiguration" by Hillsong

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLMtfq5epbw>

Lyrics

From the cloud You speak
What was veiled now is seen
Jesus the image of
The invisible God
Divinity confirmed
In the transfigured Word
A kingdom once concealed
On the earth now revealed

Holy is the Lord revealed before my eyes
And my burning heart can scarcely take it in
As I behold your beauty with unworthy eyes
The only song my soul can find to sing
Is Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah my King

Lead my longing heart
To the high ground, to the clear view
And in awe I'll be there
Beholding You

Holy is the Lord revealed before my eyes
And my burning heart can scarcely take it in
As I behold your beauty with unworthy eyes
The only song my soul can find to sing
Is Hallelujah Hallelujah Hallelujah my King

... Hallelujah Hallelujah Hallelujah my King

Now I know
I have seen
Your glory that cannot be unseen
I am changed
And changing still
As I look upon you Lord and believe

Holy is the Lord revealed before my eyes
And my burning heart can scarcely take it in
As I behold your beauty with unworthy eyes
The only song my soul can find to sing
Is Hallelujah Hallelujah Hallelujah my King