

**The Gospel of Luke / Lesson 17**

**The Transfiguration**

**Luke 9: 28-36**

## For Servants,

- Please review the introduction to the Book of Luke and pick some information to focus on.
- It is advisable to have the children take turns in reading the verses so that they get engaged and pay attention. Upon the servant prep. Servant may elect to summarize some verses into a story instead of reading verse by verse.

## MEMORY VERSE

**LUKE 9:35**  
**"This is My beloved Son. Hear Him.**

## Introduction info:

- Transfiguration is one of the minor feasts in the Coptic Orthodox church.
- Lesson of Transfiguration is in the Sunday school App. Under 6<sup>th</sup> grade/ Seasonal. You may want to have a quick review there.

## LESSON TIME!

**Lesson Goal:** Transfiguration: **Jesus is God and He is all we need**

**Definition of Change in form:** [For servants; you can explain the below in simple words] Have any of you ever seen a caterpillar go through the incredible change to become a butterfly? Some of you might have watched a caterpillar spin its cocoon and later emerged as a butterfly; it is an amazing thing! We call this process metamorphosis. **A metamorphosis** is a change on the outside that comes from the inside. It means to be changed from one form to another. A caterpillar changes from the inside out into a butterfly. It goes through metamorphosis.

Today we will read about the greatest metamorphosis that human eyes have ever beheld! Jesus changed to reveal His glory to His disciples. This event is called the transfiguration. It was a pretty amazing thing for the disciples to see. Today we will get a glimpse of Jesus' glory as we learn that **Jesus is God and He is all we need.**

**Luke 9:28-29**

**Jesus Transfigured on the Mount**

**28 Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.**

**Who did Jesus take with Him to the mountain?**

3 disciples: Peter, John, and James

**Why did He take those 3 disciples?**

To pray; but he had a bigger plan to show them His glory; but he had a bigger plan to show them His glory

### What is the name of the Mountain?

According to St. Cyril, and Origen; The transfiguration mountain is the **mountain of Tabor**

we see Jesus taking three of His close disciples on a special mission up to a high mountain place, away from the crowds of people and the other disciples. While they were in this private place together, Jesus allowed them to see something very special. He was transfigured, which means He went through a change of form.

**How did He look to them?** His face shone like the sun and His clothes became as white as the light.

[for servants] You can also read a very similar description of Jesus in His glory in Revelation chapter 1. Maybe you can take a few moments to notice the similarities between the two Bible passages.

For the disciples it must have been almost blinding for them to look upon Him. What was happening here? Jesus, who was God in human flesh, was allowing His glory as God to radiate from within in such a way that He changed on the outside to the majestic, shining, glorious King that He is.

**Jesus wanted Peter, James, and John to see this happen. Why did He want them to see this?**

1 -He wanted to strengthen their faith in Him. Jesus knew He was going to die on the cross and that His death would be difficult for His disciples.

2- They will preach the Gospel to the world, and they need to testify on what they have really seen; and now they have seen 1 god in his glory and knew for sure that Jesus is God

3- He knew that they would suffer persecution for their faith in Him when they began to tell the whole world about Jesus. They would all end up dying for their faith. Jesus knew all of these things, and He wanted to give them something they could look back on that would encourage them during those difficult times.

[Servants: you may want to simplify the below for younger ages]

**Did we see any of them write anything about what they have seen?**

**Peter** later wrote about this event in [2 Peter 1:12], "We were eyewitness of His majesty...And so we have the prophetic word made more sure." **John** wrote years later in [John 1:14], "And we beheld His glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." They would never forget that they had seen Christ in His glory, and one day, they too would join Him in glory.

### Application

**What does the Coptic church want to teach from the Transfiguration?**

- 1- Jesus is God appearing in the flesh. Showing His real glory for us to believe
- 2- We can also change and be Christ-like when we live a true Christian life
- 3- We don't fear death because Like Jesus, we will also go through a change [ a metamorphosis one day]. When we go to heaven, we will have glorified bodies in heaven with Him in brand new, perfect bodies.

The Bible says that we will be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is (1 John 3:2).

## Luke 9:30-36

30 And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, 31 who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men who stood with Him. 33 Then it happened, as they were parting from Him, that Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said.

34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud. 35 And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" 36 When the voice had ceased, Jesus was found alone. But they kept quiet and told no one in those days any of the things they had seen.

### What were the 3 disciples doing on the mountain?

While Jesus took them with Him to pray, they were sleepy, so they slept but when they opened their eyes they saw the Lord Jesus in His glory.

### Why were Moses and Elijah there talking to Jesus?

These two men were great men of the Old Testament.

**Moses** represents the Law and **Elijah** represents the Prophets.

One of the things this tells us is that the Old Testament (the law and the prophets) testifies to the fact that **Jesus is the Messiah**, the Chosen One of God.

### Activity: Visual Aid:

#### **The Pointing Game:**

You will be asking the kids to only point at whatever you ask for without saying a word; Explain that they only have one job, to point to what you say.

Say things like, "Where's the door?" "Where's the ceiling?" "Where's the clock?"  
Have the child point out each item you say.

What is the point of the game

Explain to the kids that both the law and the prophets only had one job to do, point the way to Jesus. Everything that Moses and Elijah had written would be fulfilled by Jesus, the Savior of the world. So, Peter, James, and John were to see that Moses and Elijah had pointed the way to Jesus.

Peter interrupted this magnificent scene with a suggestion of building three booths [ tabernacles or tents], one for Elijah, one for Moses, and one for Jesus so that all of them could remain there and enjoy the glory and in a humanly way; he thought they may need to be protected from the sun.

34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud. 35 And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!"

### What Does the Cloud represent or mean in the bible?

The presence of God

The cloud came and overshadowed them; as we are all protected by God; he covers us and overshadow us [ in the Thanksgiving prayer we pray that we Thank God for He had covered us: right?]

### There was a previous time that the father spoke and said this is my beloved Son; when?

At the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan river.

### What does it mean; "This is my beloved Son hear Him"?

Now since the Jews put Moses and Elijah in a very high rank as prophets; God is saying to them that Jesus is the Messiah that they have prophesied about and that they need to learn from Him and believe in Him.

Peter was putting Jesus on the same level as Moses and Elijah. The Father would not permit His beloved Son to be put on the same level as men. Jesus is the supreme One. He is the one who fulfilled the law and the prophets. There is no need for anyone or anything else. **Jesus is all we need;**

### 36 When the voice had ceased, Jesus was found alone

This is a very important verse even though it is short. They looked up and saw only Jesus with them. Moses and Elijah were gone. They did not need the law or the prophets. All they needed was Jesus.

The Old Testament is important because it points to Jesus. It is God's inspired Word. But, right in front of Peter, James, and John was the Messiah, the One whom the Old Testament was written about. Jesus is all we need.

Jesus Christ wants to encourage our faith today just like He did when He took Peter, John, and James up onto that mountain with Him to behold His glory. We can remember how glorious He is, and we can know that **Jesus is all we need.**

### Revision:

Servants: please ask all the questions highlighted in red to the children to review their understanding of the story and to make sure they remember it; this should be quick as it is a revision

### PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer Thanking Jesus for being the Messiah and for His Glory. Ask Him to bless us all and be always among us, living in our hearts and to be glorified in our lives.

### Email to Parents:

Dear Parents.

In the lesson this week, we learned about the Transfiguration (Luke 9: 28-36). We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. Jesus was "transfigured" before Peter, James and John. He revealed to them His glory. God spoke from heaven and declared, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" Peter learned that Jesus and Jesus alone is everything he would ever need! Jesus is all we need. We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

**Video:** You may choose to present one at the beginning of the lesson and one at the end

<https://youtu.be/KfT5mInsr9A>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PI-6pTDa1yU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D302i8nPnGs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nVQ8A7odx4U>