

Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain February 10-12, 2018

Mark 9:2–9 After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. ³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵ Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) ⁷ Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" ⁸ Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. ⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

- 1. In the spirit of the Southwest Airlines commercials referenced in the sermon, share with your group a fun "Wanna Get Away" moment that you've experienced.
- 2. Peter got upset with Jesus when the Savior's plans for the future differed from his own. When and why might we become "upset" with God?
- 3. So many people misunderstand Jesus and his mission. How might you use the statement that follows to explain to someone Jesus' saving work: "Jesus didn't come to put a band aide on our sin-inflicted wounds. He came to get at the very heart and core of humanity's biggest problem."

- 4. Why didn't Jesus spend his days on earth making full and constant use of his divine power and glory? (Extra Credit: Theologians refer to this as Jesus *state of* _____.)
- 5. What was the purpose of Jesus transfiguration for his first disciples? What purpose does it hold for us today?
- 6. Peter said of his mountaintop experience: "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here." How and why can we say the same thing about worshiping in God's House each week?
- 7. Explain: Although they wanted to stay on the mountain, Peter, James, and John didn't have to be afraid to leave.
- 8. Agree or disagree and why? It doesn't make sense for us Christians to want a trouble-free life here on earth.
- 9. Jot down a few reasons as to why time spent in Scripture is a "mountaintop" experience with Jesus.
- 10. Given the misconception that Jesus' closest disciples had about his mission, why might the Savior had told Peter, James, and John to keep the news of the transfiguration to themselves until after his resurrection?