



THE TRANSFIGURATION

OPENING PRAYER: Open with prayer for any personal needs of your group.

NOTE: Our insights are important so remember to respect each other's thoughts/reflections.

DISCUSSION: The transfiguration signals the end of Jesus public ministry and leads him towards Jerusalem where he will be put to death. He went up a mountain to let his friends see his glory, they will follow him up another mountain where his glory will be revealed in a different way. Jesus knew what it was to feel close to the presence of God in glorious ways, as well as traumatic times of separation.

- When have you experienced a glorious time with God that you felt transformed by the experience?
- When is a time you questioned God's presence – but looking back can see God was present?
- How might God be doing something in you to “transform” you? What would you like him to do in you?

READ: Luke 4.1-15 ([Discuss as many - or as few - of the following questions as you like](#))

As we are both physical and spiritual beings, it means we are vulnerable to temptation and trials that affect us in both areas of our beings. This means also that what affects us physically, can have spiritual consequences/overflow and vice versa. This was true of Jesus as well and like us, had to learn how to stand firm in both areas – and so, the Spirit of God now leads him into the desert.

- What physical issue was at the heart of each temptation?
- How did Jesus respond to each of the temptations raised by the devil?
- What does this passage tell you about the devil's character, the authority he held, the way he approaches tempting us, etc.?
- Which of these temptations do you believe might be the greatest still faced in our world today? Why?

GOING DEEPER:

- We are all tempted by the devil whether in ways with big consequences, (physically or emotionally hurt others, give up our faith or perhaps ways that seem to have little consequences (steal, lie, cheat, gossip). How do you stand firm to keep from falling? What do you struggle to stand firm in?

CLOSING PRAYERS:

- **CHURCH:** That our new structures, procedures and roles will quickly become a healthy rhythm within our church to enable people to explore their gifts, passions and spiritual growth together.
- **VISION 2021** – That we have a consistent attendance of 100 people each Sunday so we can explore a 2nd church service time and for increased financial giving (from those who can afford it) that we may become financially sustainable and not reliant on Diocesan support.
- **OTHER:** Close in prayer for any areas of spiritual, physical, emotional, etc. temptations shared (or not shared) that people might be struggling with which creates separation from God and others.