## Luke 9:28-43

## The Transfiguration

<sup>28</sup> About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. <sup>30</sup> Two men, Moses and Elijah, <sup>31</sup> appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. <sup>33</sup> As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.)

<sup>34</sup> While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

## Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy

<sup>37</sup> The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. <sup>38</sup> A man in the crowd called out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. <sup>39</sup> A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. <sup>40</sup> I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not."

<sup>41</sup> "You unbelieving and perverse generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here."

<sup>42</sup> Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the evil spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. <sup>43</sup> And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.

New International Version (NIV)

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- 1. What special events in your life do you wish could have lasted forever?
- 2. Why did Jesus and the three disciples go up onto a mountain? (9:28)
- 3. What happened while Jesus was praying? Who else appeared and what did they do? What did these other men represent?
- 4. Peter, John, and James did not want to leave. Have you ever had such an inspiring experience that you wanted to stay where you were, away from reality and the problems of daily life? What are the problems with "staying on the mountain?" How should we regard and use "summit" experiences?
- 5. Why did Peter suggest that they build shelters? (Other Bible versions call them booths, huts, tents, or tabernacles.) What did Luke say about this idea? (9:33)
- 6. When else had God said similar words about Jesus as in Verse 9:35? What's the difference here? (Matthew 3:17, 2 Peter 1:17)
- 7. What might God want to say to us about Jesus today?
- 8. Why do you think the three disciples told no one about what they had seen that day?
- 9. What did Jesus and his three disciples see when they came down from the mountain?
- 10. Why couldn't the nine disciples drive out the evil spirit from the boy? After all, just a short time before Jesus had given them power to drive out demons.
- 11. Who was Jesus talking to in Verse 9:41? How would you like it if he said that to you?
- 12. What is the connection in this story between belief (faith) and healing? What is the connection between belief and healing in our lives today?
- 13. How do people approach belief (and faith) today? What area of your unbelief do you want to talk to God about this week?