



Mustard Seed Children's Lesson Summary for February 21, 2010
Released on Wednesday, February 17, 2010

"An Amazing Change"

Lesson Text: Matthew 17:1-12

Background Scripture: Matthew 17:1-12

Memory Verse: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" (Matthew 17:5).

Matthew 17:1-12

1 And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into a high mountain apart,

2 And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elijah talking with him.

4 Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.

5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.

7 And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.

8 And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.

9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

10 And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elijah must first come?

11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elijah truly shall first come, and restore all things.

12 But I say unto you, That Elijah is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that God Himself declared Jesus was not just a man but was at the same time His own Son.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. Once again God Himself declared who Jesus was - He was more than human; He was the Son of God.

2. We please God when we hear Him, that is, pay attention to what His Son Jesus tells us and do what He says.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Beginning the Lesson, make a sign reading "God's Son."

For Telling the Lesson, find pictures of Jesus with three disciples, the transfiguration scene, Peter, and Jesus alone. You will also need the "God's Son" sign.

For Helping to Remember, each student will need a sheet of white construction paper, crayons, glue, and a piece of cotton to represent a cloud.

For the lesson activity, make a copy of the Word Search for each student.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Time: A.D. 29

Place: Mt. Tabor, Mt. Hermon or Mt. Miron

At the close of Matthew 16, Jesus predicted His death, His resurrection, and the glory that would come later. He even said some standing among the disciples at that moment would see that glory. How could that be possible? The next sequence of events shows what Jesus meant.

What happened next was the transfiguration, Jesus changing in outward form so that Peter, James and John saw His clothes blazing white and His face as bright as the sun. The three disciples knew Him as He was on earth; in the transfiguration, they glimpsed Him as He would be. As that happened, God's voice declared Jesus to be His Son.

The parallel accounts of the transfiguration found in Mark 9 and Luke 9 offer insights and details that Matthew does not include. These will help you prepare the lesson.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

We have been talking about who Jesus was. We learned He was more than just a man. He was the Son of God. (Stand up "God's Son.") John, when preaching down by the river, said so. Peter said so. The wonderful things Jesus did said so. One day God Himself said so. "This is My dear Son," He said. "I am very pleased with Him." (Point to "God's Son.") Now listen to what happened on another day.

TELLING THE LESSON:

Usually Jesus and His twelve closest friends all traveled together, but this day He asked only Peter, James and John to go for a walk with Him. (Show Jesus and three disciples.) They went up and up a high mountain.

When Jesus stopped for a while to pray, Peter, James, and John sat down to wait. Then they began to get sleepy, and before long they fell fast asleep (cf. Luke 9:32).

How long they slept we do not know, but all at once they were wide awake. There stood Jesus, but His face was as bright as the sun. (Show transfiguration scene.) His clothes were white and shining. Two men were talking with Him, and somehow Peter, James, and John knew they were Moses and Elijah, two of God's friends who had lived long before. They were talking about how Jesus was going to go to Jerusalem and die there.

Peter, James, and John were very afraid, but when the men started to go, Peter thought he should say something. (Show Peter.) He said, "Lord, it is a good thing that we are here. If You would like us to, we can make three tents for You and Moses and Elijah to sit under."

While Peter was still talking, a bright cloud started to come down all around them. Now the three disciples were so afraid that they bowed right down to the ground.

A voice spoke out of the cloud, saying, "This is My dear Son. (Point to "God's Son.") I am pleased with Him. Listen to what He tells you." Who was talking? It was God.

When Jesus' friends dared to look up, they saw just Jesus, standing by Himself. (Show Jesus.) The cloud and Moses and Elijah were gone.

Jesus came over and touched them. "Get up," He said. "Do not be afraid."

The next day as they were walking down the mountain, Jesus said, "Now do not tell anyone what you saw till after I have risen from the dead."

Well, all three wondered what He could mean by rising from the dead, but they did not ask. They did remember to do what He said, though. (Show transfiguration.) They did not tell anyone about the wonderful thing that had happened on the mountain, when they saw Jesus shining like the sun and heard God Himself say, "This is My dear Son." (Point to "God's Son.")

They would remember something else God had said too. They would remember it the rest of their lives. "This is My dear Son. Listen to Him. Believe what He says. Do what He tells you." God wants us to remember to do these important things the rest of *our* lives too.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

The first thing to remember is that Jesus was not just a good man who could do special things. He was a man and God's Son at the same time. (Point to "God's Son.") Jesus really was God.

The second thing to remember is what God said: "Listen to Him." Listen to what Jesus tells you in the Bible. God the Father was pleased with Jesus because Jesus did the things God wanted done. If you believe what Jesus says and do what He tells you, God will be pleased with you too.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

Tell the children they are going to draw a special picture for the refrigerator door at home. On the white construction paper, have the children draw the transfiguration scene: show the shining figure of Jesus on the mountainside, Moses and Elijah, and the three disciples. Attach the cotton ball to represent the cloud.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him" (Matthew 17:5) God Himself was talking. He said two things about Jesus and one thing about us. He said Jesus is His Son. He said the things Jesus did pleased Him very much. Finally, He said we should listen to Jesus and do what He tells us.

CONCLUSION:

Seeing Jesus transfigured must have been an amazing experience for Peter, James and John. These three disciples saw Jesus in His glory. They learned in a dramatic way that Jesus was not just another great prophet. He was greater than Moses and Elijah – He was the divine Son of God, who fully pleased the Father. This event transformed the lives of the disciples – they came face-to-face with Jesus – not just in His humanity, but in His full glory.

PRAYER:

Dear God, we want You to be pleased with us. Help us to believe Your Word and to do what Your Word tells us to do, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "A Special Act of Love" and tells of Mary of Bethany's anointing of Jesus with expensive oil. Study Matthew 26:6-13.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:

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WORD SEARCH

"An Amazing Change" (Matthew 17:1-12)

Find the following keywords from the lesson:

BRIGHTNESS	ELIJAH	JESUS	CLOUD
DISCIPLES	VISION	MOSES	PETER
VOICE	JOHN	APPEARANCE	CHANGE
JAMES	TRANSFIGURED	MOUNTAIN	AMAZING

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Solution to Word Search

"An Amazing Change" (Matthew 17:1-12)

N I A T N U O M P T
A P P E A R A N C E E R N
S U S E J T A O S
S E N I E
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L J N F I O
P O C I V M
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C N U A A A
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The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Hrsg.), Bellingham, WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc.

The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson