

The King's Road: The Revelation of the King

Re: GROUP

The King's Road: The Transfiguration (Metamorphosis) of Jesus Matthew 16:28–17:13

Small Group Discussion Questions

Icebreaker

Describe a moment when you caught a glimpse of something so beautiful or significant that it changed the way you saw everything afterward.

I. A Glimpse of the Glory of Jesus (Matthew 16:28–17:4)

1. Why do you think Jesus allowed only Peter, James, and John to witness the Transfiguration?
2. What does the Transfiguration reveal about who Jesus truly is?
3. The Greek word translated "transfigured" is the root of our word *metamorphosis*. What does that suggest about what the disciples witnessed?
4. Moses reflected God's glory, while Jesus radiated His own glory. Why is that distinction so important?
5. Why do you think Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus? What did they represent?
6. Luke tells us they discussed Jesus' "departure" (literally, His "exodus"). Why is that word significant?
7. Peter wanted to build three shelters. Why do you think his response seemed reasonable from a Jewish perspective? Where was his mistake?

Application:

- What helps you keep Jesus in His rightful place instead of placing Him alongside other influences or authorities in your life?

II. Hearing the Voice of God (Matthew 17:5–8)

8. Why do you think God interrupted Peter?
9. What Old Testament events does the cloud remind us of?
10. What is the significance of each phrase the Father spoke?
 - "This is my beloved Son..."
 - "With whom I am well pleased..."
 - "Listen to Him."
11. Why was "Listen to Him" such an important command for first-century Jewish believers?
12. How did the disciples respond to God's presence? What does their reaction teach us about the holiness of God?

13. What do you learn about Jesus from the fact that He touched the disciples and told them, "Rise, and have no fear"?

Application:

- In your daily life, what competes for your attention and makes it difficult to truly listen to Jesus?

III. Connecting the Dots (Matthew 17:10–13)

14. Why were the disciples confused about Elijah's coming?
15. How did Jesus help them understand the role of John the Baptist?
16. What does this passage teach us about patiently seeking understanding when Scripture is difficult?
17. Jesus again reminds the disciples that suffering comes before glory. Why was that lesson so difficult for them to accept?

Application:

- Have you ever looked back and realized God was connecting the dots in your life only after the events had already happened? Share your experience.

Digging Deeper

18. Throughout this passage, Matthew intentionally connects Jesus with Moses. What similarities did you notice?
19. How does this passage also demonstrate that Jesus is greater than Moses?
20. If someone asked you, "Why does the Transfiguration matter?" how would you answer after studying this passage?

Prayer Focus

Pray that God would:

- Give you a clearer vision of Jesus' glory.
- Help you listen to Christ above every other voice.
- Increase your confidence that Jesus fulfills all of God's promises.
- Strengthen your faith to trust Him even when His plan includes suffering before glory.
- Help your group continually see Jesus for who He truly is—the beloved Son of God, worthy of worship and obedience.