

# Sermon Discussion Guide- Week of Mar 10, 2019

## Settling In or Setting Out?

Pastor Temple 8:15, 9:30, 10:55

### Getting Started- Life Updates, Prayer Requests & Opening Question (15-20 min)

- Anything to share about in the past week? About follow-ups from last Sunday, The Power of One?
- Are there any joys or concerns that you would like to share with the group for the closing prayer time or for group members to hold in prayer during the week? (please note them below for later)

➤ Opener Question:

### Review the Sermon (15 min)

Please read aloud the sermon scripture below, Luke 9:28-36. Know that it is ok to skip some questions below in order to manage the time for discussions in each section.

**<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, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. <sup>31</sup> 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.**

- If you had to give a one-minute summary of the sermon message this week, what would you say?
- Why did Jesus and the Disciples go up the mountain? (verse 28)
- When the glory of Christ was witnessed by 3 sleepy disciples, how were they awakened in more than just a physical sense? (verse 32)
- Why would Peter want to prolong this experience? (verse 33)

- Why would it have been wrong for them to stay there?
- How do you respond to Pastor Temple's statement "The spiritual life is not about how high you leap, it's how you walk when your feet hit the ground"?
- A theophany is a visible manifestation of the divine presence with humans. Like Mount Sinai with Moses, God appears in a cloud on a mountaintop and His voice is heard to endorse Jesus as His Son whom the disciples should listen to (verse 35). How does Jesus' voice often encourage us to "set out" more so than "settle in"?
- Pastor Temple said that "At the transfiguration, Jesus turned His back on the glory to come back down and get us." In so doing how does Jesus set an example for us "gotten" ones?

### **Other Related Scriptures (10 min)**

- Would a volunteer please read out loud Colossians 1:15-17.
- Jesus is "the image of the invisible God" and "all things were created through him and for him." How are these qualities on display in the Mount of Transfiguration passage?
- How or why do you believe these qualities were hidden from people much of the time?
- How does knowing that Christ "is before all things, and in him all things hold together" inspire greater appreciation for His incarnation?
- How did Jesus present the glory and presence of God in more approachable ways to humans?
- Is it vain to think His followers can share in revealing the glory of God with others as He did? Why or why not?

### **Personalizing and Applying The Message (15 min)**

- As you reflect upon the sermon and the additional scripture above, what are points of encouragement or challenge for you personally?
- What "mountaintop experiences" with God would you care to share with your group?
- As you navigate our church-wide journey through the wilderness passages of scripture in this Lenten season, do you feel stuck or settled into a particular place along the way?
- What do you think it would take for you to be unstuck and moving purposefully toward where Christ wants you to be?
- As you "listen to Him" who said "follow me" what messages from Christ are you discerning? What signs of hope or assurance do you believe may be confirming these messages for you?

### **Witness & Closing Prayer (5-10 min)**

- Pastor Temple said "A church which knows only praise and worship and not mission and service has missed the boat." What are some ways that you are involved or interested in being involved in glorifying Christ through particular missions of the church?
- Do we think others around us can tell from our words and our actions that we love Jesus?
- The group leader or another volunteer who took notes on the prayer requests shared earlier in the meeting, may now lead the group in closing prayer.