

Mark 9:2-10

Context

This passage reveals Jesus in his heavenly glory. It comes right after he speaks with his disciples about taking up their crosses and following him to suffer and die. In that passage, he goes on to say that those who seek to save their lives will lose them, and those who lose their lives (for his sake) will save them in the end (meaning, they will share with him in his divine glory). As we read this passage, be on the lookout for how the disciples, especially Peter, respond to this revelation, and how God responds to them.

Hearing: (Read “Context” and then Mark 9:2-10. Then pray for God’s grace to understand.)

- Before we dive in, what stands out to you from this passage or from the sermon this weekend?
- In vv 2-3, Mark says that Jesus took the disciples up on a “high mountain” and was “transfigured before them.” In the Bible, “mountaintops” are where God often reveals himself or his Word to people. What is being revealed in this story? Have you ever had “mountaintop” moments with God? Did God reveal anything specific to you?
- In v 4, Mark says that Moses and Elijah both appeared with Jesus and were talking with him on the mountain. Of all the OT characters who might have appeared, the significance of these two is that they both rejected the luxuries of royal courts and suffered the consequences of confronting defiant rulers. What has taking up the cross to follow Christ looked like in your life? Have you had to forgo promotions, advantages, or luxuries? Are you open to doing so?
- Still not understanding why Jesus had to die, in v 5, Peter offers to make three tents (*lit.* “tabernacles”) for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. He likely hoped that this would be the day that God would once again dwell with his people as he did in the wilderness. In what ways have you had to be patient for God to move in your life? How has God used that time to grow you spiritually, or redirect what it is you are waiting for?
- In vv 7-8, the presence and voice of God descended upon them and spoke the same words He spoke over Jesus at his baptism, “this is my beloved Son;” followed with the command, “listen to him.” The command, “listen to him,” carries the meaning, *allegiance*: “listen to him, *alone*.” What voices do you find competing for your allegiance (whole-hearted devotion)? How can we as a Life Group help each other stay faithful?

Obeying (application)

- The primary way God speaks to His people is through His Word. This week, consider spending time each day in the Scriptures, asking God to speak to you. Try meditating on a verse, journaling through a passage, or just sitting/listening in silence.