

LESSON PAN

THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION

Mark 9:1-13

(Matt 16:28 – 17:13; Luke 9:27-36)

Lesson Memory Verse: Mark 9:7 – “And there was a cloud that overshadowed them: and **a voice came out of the cloud, saying, ‘This is my beloved Son: hear Him.’**” (Grades 1&2 memorize bold words.)

Lesson Aim: We should read God’s Word (the Bible), listen to what He is saying and then obey Him.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Attention): What are some of the brightest lights that you have ever seen? (Welding torch, car lights, sun, flash of lightning, search light and more) Which of these is the brightest light? (The sun) The sun is so bright that it gives light to all the people and plants and animals on the face of the earth. It is so bright that it will burn out your eyes and make you blind if you should stare at it. I am going to tell you a Bible story about three of Jesus’ disciples that were startled by seeing Jesus clothed in brilliant white clothes and His face was as bright as the sun. He talked with two famous leaders of Israel that lived hundreds of years before they were born, but when Peter saw them, he knew who they were. Then something else startled them--a voice came out of a cloud and it spoke to them. I will tell you who these two men were in the Bible story and I think you will discover whose voice they heard when we read our memory verse for this week. (Have the verse written on a large sheet of paper or on poster board, so all the class can see it as you read it to them. Have them tell you whose voice spoke to the three disciples.)

HE (for Authority): Yes, the voice that spoke to the three disciples out of the cloud was from God the Father. He talked about Jesus, His beloved Son. He told these disciples in clear language that Jesus was His Son. Since God never changes, He has always been the Father of His Son. That means His Son is eternal like His Father. Jesus is God the Son.

God sent His Son to earth to tell us more about Him and how we can live with Him forever. That is why God told the three disciples to “hear Him.” There are many teachers in the world that want us to hear them, but God told Jesus’ disciples to hear His Son. That meant more than listening to His words, it meant that they were to obey what He told them. He would tell them about His Father and His plans for believers to live with Him, but they had to obey what He told them, if they were going to be true believers. We need to memorize this verse so that we will remember to listen to Jesus and obey what He tells us. What He said is written in the first four books of the New Testament and some in the book of Revelation.

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scriptures for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. Today, we will learn what happened when Jesus took three of His disciples up the mountain to pray.

I. Listen to Jesus’ Promise - Mark 9:1

Jesus made a great promise to His disciples. He said that some of them would not die before they would see the kingdom of God come with power. He was talking about His Kingdom that would come to this earth. Some of the disciples would see something of the power of His Kingdom before they would die.

WE: We have Jesus’ promise that we will be in His Kingdom, if we have received Him as our Savior, to rule the whole earth with Him (Rev 2:26-27; 3:21; 20:4-6). I hope that you have received Jesus as your Savior, so you can be with Him in His Kingdom.

This is just one of many great promises that He has given to believers. Can you think of other promises?

[Here are some of the promises that the children could mention. Have each promise and verse printed on a paper sheet in large letters (use capital and small letters) so everyone in the class can read the verse.]

Promise of everlasting life – John 3:16

Promise of the Holy Spirit – John 14:26

Promise of peace – John 14:27

Promise of answered prayer – John 15:7

Promise of joy – John 15:11

Promise of victory – 1 Corinthians 15:57

Promise of strength – Philippians 4:13

Promise of forgiveness – I John 1:9

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II. Look at His Power - Mark 9:2-3

Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain for prayer and as He prayed His appearance changed so that His clothes became bright white (Luke 9:28). His face shone like the sun (Mt 17:2). This was the promise that Jesus gave to His disciples six days earlier when He promised that some of His disciples would see the Kingdom of God with power. They saw Jesus in His glory and power.

WE: We should be thrilled that three disciples saw some of the glory and power of Jesus on the mountain. They are witnesses to us that His Kingdom is real and it is glorious. Someday all believers will enjoy it with King Jesus, when He is on His throne in Jerusalem. Jesus is a powerful person, who will use His power to defeat Satan and cleanse the world of all wicked people. He also is a kind and loving person, who uses His power to save all those who turn from their evil ways and want to be cleansed of all their sins. He will save them by the blood that He shed on the cross, since no sins can be removed without the shedding of blood.

III. Lift up His Position - Mark 9:4-8.

The disciples saw Jesus talking to Elijah and Moses, two powerful leaders of the Israelites, who lived hundreds of years before the disciples were born. It is interesting that they knew who these two men were, even though this was the first time that they had seen them. When Peter saw these two important men talking with Jesus, he suggested that they build a tabernacle for each of them. Suddenly a cloud came over them and they could no longer see Jesus, Elijah or Moses. Then a voice spoke to them out of the cloud. Whose voice was it? (God, the Father's) What did the Father say? (This is my beloved Son: hear Him.) What did God mean by that command? He did not want Peter or the other two disciples to make Moses and Elijah equal to Jesus. They were important prophets in the Old Testament times, but Jesus was far more important than them and He would tell them exactly what they needed to know now. That is why they were told to listen to Jesus. He was the most important person for them to hear; He still is the most important person for us to hear. Why? He is God, because He is the eternal Son of God.

WE: We need to lift up Jesus far above everyone else in all the world and listen to Him. Will you lift Him above everyone else that you know? Will He be more important to you than your father or mother, your sisters or brothers, your relatives and friends? He should be, because He is the greatest!

IV. Learn of His Program - Mark 9:9-13

As Jesus went down the mountain with His three disciples, He talked about His coming **death**. They could not understand what He was saying because they did not think He was supposed to die. He was supposed to rule the earth as their King, and that would happen very soon. They had many things to learn about Jesus' program and why He came to earth. Then He talked about rising **from the dead**. That also puzzled His disciples. They did not understand why Jesus had to die and rise again. However, if He had not died, He would have destroyed His Father's plan to save us. If He had not risen from the dead, His Father's plan to give us eternal life would not be possible, because our life comes from Jesus' life. So it was important for us that Jesus died and rose from the dead to make it possible to live forever with God.

WE: We need to understand why Jesus died and rose again. Why did He die? (To pay the penalty for our sins) Why did He rise? (To share His everlasting life with us) Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior? He wants to be your Savior. If you seriously want Jesus to be your Savior, ask Him and He will save you from your sins so you will not go to Hell. He will give you everlasting life and you will be able to live with Him forever in the beautiful place He has prepared for those that love Him.

BE (for Action): There are many reasons why people do not want to listen to Jesus. They do not love Him; they do not read the Bible to find out who He is; they listen to other people whose thoughts agree with theirs; they do not believe the Bible can be trusted; they say they want to have some fun first and then they will listen to Jesus.) Who is happy when people think like that and do not do what Jesus commands? (Satan and his followers) Who is sad? (Jesus and His followers) How can you bring joy to the heart of Jesus? (Listen to His words and obey them.) Will you do that? If you want to obey Jesus, please tell that to Him now and ask Him to help you to keep on obeying Him. (Give them an opportunity to pray to the Lord before you dismiss the class.