

“Closer Walk” Bible Study

Mining Matthew Chapter 17

Purpose: To share lives around the Scripture and through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit make happy and unexpected discoveries that change our lives and bring us closer in our walk with Jesus.

Getting us started

1. What was one mountain top experience in your life?
2. Of all the places you call “God’s country,” which is your favorite?
3. If you could move mountains, which one would you move first: Mt. Everest? Your favorite ski slope? Mountains of paper?
4. What wild “fish story” is retold in your family?

Getting us into Scripture

5. It’s been six days since Peter confessed Jesus as the Christ and Jesus predicted his own death. Why is that information important for what happens next? Who does Jesus invite as a witness? Why only three? Why these three?
6. What does it mean to be “transfigured”?
7. Why Moses? Elijah (see 11:13)?
8. Why was Peter’s response inappropriate?
9. What is significant in what the voice from the cloud says about Jesus? (See Exodus 24:15)
10. Why does Jesus silence the disciples?
11. Why did demons seem to be more common in Jesus’ day?
12. Who is Jesus describing in verse 17? Why would he say such a thing?
13. How would you paraphrase verse 20?
14. What does the disciples’ grief reveal about them?
15. What is the temple tax (see Exodus 30:11-16)? Who was required to pay it?
16. Why is Jesus exempt from the tax?
17. What lesson was Jesus teaching Peter by paying the tax anyway?

Getting Scripture into us

18. How did you come to realize that Jesus was the one, above all others, that you should listen to?
19. How has God said to you, “This is my child, whom I love, with my child I am well pleased”?
20. When was a mountaintop experience in your life been followed by a valley experience? How did you cope?
21. In which areas of your life do you long to see more faith?
22. Which freedoms do you enjoy most as a Christian?
23. What is at stake when we offend someone?