

I was there

2 Peter 1:16-21

Peter gives his eyewitness account of Jesus being transformed by the light of God's glory. Writing about it later to the early Christians, he has had time to savour and to review his overwhelming experience and remains convinced that Jesus will return to rise as the morning star in our hearts.

The scene of transfiguration is the focus of our readings today: something being changed before our eyes. Moses encounters God on Mount Sinai and the people of God are changed by the Ten Commandments. Jesus is transfigured himself in the accounts by Peter and Matthew as a revelation of God, and Jesus as the Son of God. This week we consider the life-changing impact of these events.

Read this week's passage:



Write

Make an acrostic. Write the word 'AWESOME' vertically down a piece of paper. Set a 60-second timer and see how many adjectives you can think of to describe something 'awesome' starting with those letters. Place this near your front door to remind you of God's awesome presence in the world.

Discuss



Read the story of the Transfiguration or watch the clip.

Discuss: What would it have been like to be there and what does it tell us about Jesus?

Living Scripture

'We had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.' 2 Peter 1:16

What events have you personally witnessed? Perhaps an epic sporting victory, a wedding, a birth, a crime, a miracle? Seeing these things can change our expectations of the future (it could happen again).

Peter tells us he was an eyewitness to seeing Jesus in his glory on the mountain of transfiguration. That encounter changed how he saw Jesus, and how he understood the future.

What encounters have you had with God? Has God met with you, encouraged you, called you or nudged you somehow? How did those moments change you? Who do you wish could experience more of Jesus? (It might be you.) Pray for that person today.

First impressions

- How important is it to see things with your own eyes?
- In what ways have you experienced God's presence?
- How might you describe these experiences to someone who is sceptical about faith?



Pray

God of good news,
for eyewitnesses who share,
for all who were there:
we praise you.
for your living word your loving heart,
that calls us all to play our part:
we praise you.
We thank you that you are here now,
our awesome God... take a bow
as we praise you.
Amen.



Decorate an old cardboard box and turn it into a memory box. You could write words to describe your family on the outside or even print off photos to stick onto it. Fill it with photos, stories and objects that remind you of important memories and people. Thank God for them and pray for them as you fill the box. Alternatively, you could decorate a notebook instead to fill with memories.



Play charades with a Biblical theme – choose stories or characters from the Bible.

