



PK-2nd

The Story @ Home

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2016-2017)

Lesson #3-23
Luke 9:28-45

The Point

Jesus is revealed as God's son, the Messiah who has come to serve and inspire service in us. The significance of Moses and Elijah connects the history of the Jewish people and Jesus the Messiah. Moses connects to Jesus and his ancestors' who were slaves and freed by God. Elijah connects as a prophet in which God's glory is spoken. Through Jesus, we too are transformed and made in God's image.

Story Summary: *Transfiguration and Healing*

Jesus took Peter, John and James to the mountain top to pray. While they were praying, Jesus was transformed and his clothing became a dazzling white. The disciples saw Moses and Elijah talking to Jesus. Peter thought that it might be a good idea to make three dwellings: one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. Then a cloud came and overshadowed them. God spoke and announced Jesus as God's Son

and Chosen one. The healing of the boy who is tormented and oppressed by a demon reminds us of the freedom we have through Jesus. The language used for the demon is violent and extreme. This act of healing is another example of the liberation done by Jesus. After the healing of this only son, Jesus begins his journey toward the cross. The end of this week leads into our journey through Lent.

Spiritual Practice: Prayer

The spiritual practice for this unit is prayer. There are many ways one can pray. A fun way to pray is to take some time looking through photos of family members and spending time praying for them. It is through prayer that the communication between God and us is made. Prayer can be done at all ages and in all situations. Prayer is used to give thanks to God and in times of sadness.

Last Week/Next Week

Last week we read the moving story of gratitude shown by a forgiven woman. On that high note, we move to the transfiguration. The next reading falls on Ash Wednesday with a major statement: Jesus sets his face towards Jerusalem. On the first Sunday of Lent, we will read the Parable of the Good Samaritan and the story of Jesus' visit to Mary and Martha (Luke 10:25-42), connecting the service offered by Jesus in healing the boy to the self-sacrificing service that is expected of followers of Jesus.

Bible Nuts and Bolts: Old Testament References

Much of the significance of the transfiguration depends on our knowledge of Old Testament references, including Moses and Elijah. This story makes a clear connection between the identity of Jesus and the history of the Jewish people. The presence of Elijah makes a connection to God's glory, as spoken by the prophets. The presence of Moses connects Jesus to his ancestors' slavery and deliverance. Jesus' own transfiguration redefines God's glory as the glory of the Son who is made in God's image and who came to deliver the people not through might, but through service.

Family Discussions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. Help your children to imagine what it would have been like to be the people contained in the stories. What is God's message to them—and to us?

- ✚ What are some stories that you remember about Moses?
- ✚ What are some stories that you remember about Elijah?
- ✚ What did Jesus' clothes look like in the story today?

Family Devotions

Pick a time each day to gather together and read the following excerpts that share stories from a variety of geographical locations. It would be a great opportunity to find a map in the back of a Bible to further explore the world during biblical times. Engage in a few activities that help you better understand God's message of love to people living in those places as well as where you live today.

Sunday—Read Luke 9:28-45 —Transfiguration and Healing

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain with Moses and Elijah, and Jesus heals a boy who was broken and full of demons. Focus on prayer by going into a dark room and lighting a flashlight while praying together.

Monday—Read Malachi 4:4-6—Advice for the Coming of the Lord

Today's reading tells us of the prophet Elijah coming to turn the hearts of the lost. Use an online concordance and look up and read one other story in the Bible about Elijah.

Tuesday—Read Luke 9:46-50—True Greatness

The disciples argued over who would be the greatest. Jesus reminded them that the one who welcomes even the littlest child welcomes Jesus and that the least will be the greatest. Make a list of some of the youngest people in your family and in your congregation. Spend time praying for them.

Wednesday—Read Luke 9:51-62—Jesus Sets His Face Toward Jerusalem

Jesus prepares for his ascension to heaven. Jesus warns of the cost of being a disciple. Spend some time praying for those who are in prison around the world for their faith.

Thursday—Read Luke 10:1-12—The Mission of the Seventy

Jesus sends out seventy-two people to tell the good news. Jesus reminds them to go from house to house and spread peace to the homes. Make a peace offering for your neighbors. A peace offering can be a plate of cookies, a drawing from the family, or any kind gesture.

Friday—Read Luke 10:17-20—The Return of the Seventy

The seventy-two Jesus sent returned with joy. Have a joyous dance party!

Saturday—Read Luke 10:21-24—Jesus Rejoices

Jesus prays out loud to God, his father. Jesus rejoices in the father's will. Play a game of hide and seek. After you play, remind each other about the things God hides and the things he reveals for us.