

Children's Message for Transfiguration, February 14, 2021

Does anyone in your family wear glasses? Some people can see okay if things are far away, but need glasses to see up close. I have to wear my glasses to read, but I can drive or watch TV without them.

Today we celebrate the "Transfiguration" of Jesus. That long word just means "change" from one thing to another, or in this case, from one appearance to another. For a few minutes, Jesus *looked* different to some of his disciples, just the way what I read looks different when I have my glasses on.

Here's what happened: Jesus took Peter and James and John with him to the top of a high mountain. They were all alone—until suddenly Jesus started to shine like the sun, all full of light.

And then, the disciples saw 2 other men with Jesus. Somehow they knew 1 of them was Moses, and the other was Elijah. Have you heard of them before? (What did Moses do? Do you know any stories about Elijah?)

It was pretty scary for the disciples, seeing their friend Jesus change like that! They didn't know what to do! And *then* they heard a voice from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him!" -- Who do you think was talking?

It was like wearing glasses so you can see more clearly. God "dressed Jesus up" in glowing light so his friends could see he was really part of God. Usually he was just like them, sort of like he was in disguise as a human being. Seeing Jesus transformed and hearing God's voice made them certain that Jesus was the One they wanted to follow. And they would pay more attention to what he said from now on, because God told them to *listen to Jesus!*

End with this question: What are some of the things you remember Jesus saying? (Good exercise for parents, too!)