

# TELOS

*Telos (Greek): def.: striving for a goal, completing your purpose . It means achieving maturity, and undivided wholeness in a person's behavior. For the Christian it means becoming like Jesus.*

*"We proclaim Christ, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ"*

*Col. 1:28*

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## Matthew 17

Max Lucado talks about the transfiguration in his book 'Just Like Jesus'.

*"The words of Matthew presuppose a decision on the part of Jesus to stand in the presence of God. The simple fact that he chose his companions and went up on a mountain suggests this was no spur-of-the-moment action. He didn't wake up one morning, look at the calendar and then at his watch, and say 'OOPS, today is the day we go to the mountain.' No, he had preparations to make. Ministry to people was suspended so ministry to his heart could occur. Since his chosen place of worship was some distance away, he had to select the right path and stay on the right road. By the time he was on the mountain, his heart was ready. Jesus prepared for worship. Let me ask you, do you do the same? Do you prepare for worship? What paths do you take to lead you up the mountain? The question may seem foreign, but my hunch is, many of us simply wake up and show up. We're sadly casual when it comes to meeting with God.*

*Would we be so lackadaisical with, oh, let's say, the president? Suppose you were granted a Sunday morning breakfast at the White House? How would you spend Saturday night? Would you get ready? Would you collect your thoughts? Would you think about your questions and requests? Of course you would. Should we prepare any less for an encounter with the Holy God?*

*Let me urge you to come to worship prepare to worship. Pray before you come so you will be ready to pray when you arrive. Read the Word before you come so your heart will be soft when you worship. Come hungry. Come willing. Come expecting God to speak.*

*As you do, you'll discover the purpose of worship-to change the face of the worshiper. This is exactly what happened to Christ on the mountain. Jesus' appearance was changed: "His face became bright like the sun" (Matt 17:2)" Excerpt from Just Like Jesus pages 80-81*

As Max says, we need to take time to focus our hearts on worship. That is why Jesus became so disgusted with the disciples when they weren't able to cast the demon out of the boy later in chapter 17. Matthew 17:17 " Jesus said, 'What a generation! No sense of God! No

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focus to your lives. How many times do I have to go over these things? How much longer do I have to put up with this?' (from The Message)

We need to learn to prepare our hearts for worship and ministry. As our hearts become more in tune with him, our faces will display his glory.

### **Kingdom Principle #3:**

*Jesus helps me embrace repentance as an initial event that becomes a life-long process of following Him.*

### **Memory Verse:**

*When they came together in Galilee, he said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. <sup>23</sup> They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life." And the disciples were filled with grief. Matthew 17:22 & 23*

DAILY BIBLE STUDY

# Monday

## **The Transfiguration - Matthew 17:1-8**

### **Passage Preview**

Who is Jesus Christ? Jesus ascends a high mountain with Peter, James, and John to take them through a transformational experience. This encounter with God results in the disciples falling face down before the God of the universe.

### **Key Words**

- Transfigured: To change into another form.
- Love: The expression of God's nature in total commitment to the benefit of another.

### **Read Matthew 17:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

<sup>4</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Lord it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters - one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

<sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

<sup>6</sup> When the disciples heard this, they fell face down to the ground, terrified. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid."<sup>8</sup> When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

1. What stood out to you? Why?

2. What was the purpose of this experience for the disciples? What effect do you think it had on them?
  
3. **Kingdom Question:** One of the characteristics of the King's followers is that they listen to Him. What has God been saying to you lately? Are you listening? How are you following?
  
4. God said He was well pleased with His Son. How does it affect you to know that God loves you?

### **Summary**

Transformational experiences are intended to change us. The transfiguration should have deeply embedded into the disciples the bedrock conviction as to who Jesus is: the DIVINE SON OF GOD!!

### **Prayer**

Lord, help me to be like Jesus and set aside certain times to worship you. As I draw near to you, please allow your Holy Spirit to shine through me.

# **Tuesday**

## **Response to the Transfiguration - Matthew 17:9-13**

### **Passage Preview**

Jesus partially helps the disciples put together the historical pieces of God's divine timetable. The disciples are beginning to get the big picture that they are a key part of God's eternal plan.

### **Key Words**

- Restore: To set in order, to mend.





How do you deal with the attacks of Satan?

4. "Nothing will be impossible for you." What are you facing that seems impossible? How can you trust God to make it possible?

### **Summary**

God desires to work supernaturally through your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you for His kingdom work.

### **Prayer**

Jesus, please help me to face all uncertain circumstances knowing that You will fight all battles for me. Increase my faith Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

## **Thursday**

### **Jesus on Taxes - Matthew 17:24-27**

#### **Passage Preview**

Jesus takes quite a creative approach to paying taxes. Yet this is much more than a story about taxes. Jesus uses this brief teaching moment to work a miracle and secure the identity of the disciples in the family of God, not just the family of man.

#### **Key Words**

Offend: Insult, wound, antagonize, or anger.

#### **Read Matthew 17:24-27**

<sup>24</sup> After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two drachma tax came to Peter and asked, "Doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax?"

<sup>25</sup> Yes, he does," he replied.

When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. "What do you think, Simon?" he asked. "From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own sons or from others?"

<sup>26</sup> "From others," Peter answered.

"Then the sons are exempt," Jesus said to him. <sup>27</sup> "But so that we may not offend them, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."



# Friday

## “What Jesus Called Good News”

**Read Chapter 16 in the Follow Me Book**

### **Introduction**

Monty Hall was the Hollywood game show host known for saying, “Do you want what’s behind Door #1, Door #2, or Door #3.” There were treasures behind each door. But it wasn’t the door that had value, it was what was behind the door. Our modern day presentation of the gospel places all the emphasis of salvation on how we get it instead of what we get, namely God and His great government over our lives.

1. If you and I do not include the concepts of “The Kingdom” and “Repentance” in our presentation of the gospel, what would we be guilty of and why is it that a problem?
2. If we fail to emphasize the “Kingdom” as the central issue of the gospel, where do we tend to place the emphasis? What result would this produce?
3. How would you respond to the person who says, “The Apostle Paul preached a gospel of pure, unadulterated Grace. How do works fit into your faith?”
4. Describe modern-day factors that have influenced the gospel in our generation. What it has changed into?

5. Review the prayer on page 142 (see below), then write down phrases from the prayer that are expressions of genuine repentance.

*“Heavenly Father, You are right about what is keeping us apart. I have been resisting You and avoiding You because I’ve been insisting on holding on to the control of my life. I realize that my obsession with having my own way has been the cause of the distance between me.*

*Thank You for providing the way back under Your leadership through Jesus and what He accomplished for me at the cross. I accept Your forgiveness and I now surrender to Your leadership and Your love. I want to be part of Your kingdom now and forever. Amen.” (Page 142, Follow Me)*

6. Describe one way God’s government has made a difference in the way you lived your life today.

### **Summary**

Inoculation is the injection of a weakened strain of a virus into a person to build up their immunity to the real thing. A weakened or incomplete Gospel can have the same immunizing effect on the human heart. This produces unregenerate individuals who either think themselves to be Christian or believe that “it” did not work or last for them and so they are immune to hearing the Good News. We must be up front with the fact that God wants to be King and expects surrender.

### **Prayer**

Lord please open our hearts to hear Your truth so we can follow You more closely.

### **Kingdom Principle**

Complete Kingdom Principle #3:

\_\_\_\_\_ helps me \_\_\_\_\_ as an  
\_\_\_\_\_ event that \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

These TELOS materials have been adapted with permission from the "Follow Me" discipleship Curriculum produced by North Shore Baptist Church in Bothell, WA and based on the book Follow Me by Jan David Hettinga and the gospel of Matthew.

*This week's editor:*  
*Stacey Grose*

Please spend time praying for the Pastor as he prepares to preach this Sunday.

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⇒ If you have any comments or questions about TELOS please direct them to Pastor Ken at the church office:  
phone: 773-4433 or email: ken.trailview@sasktel.net

The mission of TELOS is to help you develop the beliefs, practices and virtues of a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ. TELOS is one component of our strategy at Trailview of living out our call to become a "community of servants who live to fulfill the Great Commission.

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All scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version, Copyright 1973, 1978, International Bible Society.

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