



## Transparency

### Matthew 17: 1-6

**1** After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. **2** There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. **3** Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. **4** 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." **5** 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!"

Transparent:

To be transparent means to be our clear, unapologetic selves before others so that God can shine his light through our experiences and illuminate His miracles in us. We often allow the debris and residue from broken relationships to become a film that covers us. Shrouded in this film, our words, actions, and even the way we present ourselves is not honest, not transparent. In order to become transparent, we must take the following steps. Jesus modeled the ultimate transparency when he experienced transfiguration in Matthew 17. The only recorded miracle Jesus ever performed on himself, he changed before the very eyes of the disciples and was affirmed by God.

Experiment with Transfiguration with the following the steps:

- 1) Trans-Parent. We must move through the mistakes of our parents. Stop using your parents' "bad" to determine your "not as bad as." As Marlon says, "Don't be a better bad than your parents. Be your own good."
- 2) Transfigure in an Instant. Don't wait to change your thoughts and actions. Eliminate the amount of time you think you need to transfigure. Jesus changed in an instant. Decide what should be different, and make it so.

To help you process, respond to the following questions:

- 1) How have your parents, intentionally or unintentionally hurt you in a way that still affects you?
- 2) How can you release your parents and move forward? What truth & forgiveness must you verbalize?
- 3) What choice can you make this instant to transfigure, and become more transparent?