# Lesson 5
# Transfiguration of Jesus

## Objective
Study Mark 9 & Luke 9 - Learn that Jesus transfigured and proved that He is greater and is to be followed over any prophet and the Old Law of the Old Testament.

## Supplies
Teachers and/or Coordinators ensure supplies are ready prior to each class.

Print From the Site:
- Jesus' Transfiguration Activity Sheet (one per student)
- Jesus' Transfiguration Visual Aid Sheet (one for teacher)
- Take Home Sheet 3 (one per student)

- Bibles – enough for everyone to have one
- Pens/Pencils/Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Stickers (for attendance)
- Attendance Chart

## Optional Supplies
Print From the Site:
- Jesus' Transfigures Craft Sheet (one for two students cut out before class)

- Utility or X-acto knife
- Scissors – a few to share
- Wax paper – one piece per student
- Stapler – to share
- Tape – to share
- Electric Led Tealights – one per student **OR**
- White Glow Sticks – one per student
- Snack:
  - Popcorn Seeds – a handful to show students
  - Popcorn – enough for each student
  - Paper Cups or Paper Bags for popcorn

# Teacher Tips

★ See Lesson 1 for ideas.

## 1) Introduction to Lesson

As students enter, welcome them, thank them for coming. Take attendance.
**Last time we learned that Jesus helped a man who was deaf and was not able to speak well. Because Jesus is the Son of God He can do miracles including bringing sound and words to those who never heard or said them before. We learned that it is important to thank God for all the things we have including sight, hearing, and the ability to speak.**

**This time we will learn from the Bible that Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James and John.**
**The transfiguration was a complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful and spiritual state. It was amazing and proved even more that we should listen to Jesus!**

## 2) Class Time - Jesus' Transfiguration 10-15 minutes

Prep:
Have visual aid ready.

Activity:
**Let's all get our Bibles and turn to Matthew 17. Thank you to those who brought your own Bible!**

Read **Matthew 17:1-13** while showing visual aids. Have volunteers take turns, or read yourself.

**Peter, James and John saw Jesus speaking to two men, men who had died many years ago! This was amazing to them. Both Moses and Elijah, were faithful believers in God. They represented things of the past in the Old Testament. People used to listen to them, the Law and what they said. Elijah represented the prophets of old. Moses represented the Law and the Old Testament. Now God said that we are to listen to Jesus. We no longer follow the Old Testament law and its 613 rules and regulations. We follow Jesus**

**and His words and the words He told the writers of the New Testament to write down for us. If there was any doubt, God said directly that we need to! Even Moses and other prophets while they were alive said a greater Prophet was to come – and that prophet was Jesus. Not only did they say we should, but God gives His ultimate approval when He speaks from heaven.**

**In Deuteronomy 18:15 Moses specifically says:**
**15** "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—

**Moses was telling the Jewish people, the Israelites about Jesus and that they were to listen to Jesus when He came. God said: Listen to Him! The authority of Moses and the prophets is being removed. God again is stating publicly to witnesses that Jesus is His Son and that God is giving Jesus the authority. Even though He was standing next to two of the greatest men in Israel's history, God says Jesus is even greater and all should listen to Him now. Remember God also spoke when Jesus began His ministry when He was baptized three years earlier. God again has given His approval both then and now of Jesus.**

**The transfiguration ends as quickly as it began and Jesus instructs them to tell no one until He is resurrected. They are puzzled. Jesus wanted them to wait until He rose from the dead before they mentioned this event. Which they did when Matthew, Luke and Mark all wrote of the event that Peter, James and John witnessed.**

**Jesus then explains that the Elijah to come was John the Baptizer who came and was killed by the Jews. Peter, James and John now understood. Everything the Old Testament was speaking of was coming true in Jesus Christ. All the Old Testament was being fulfilled before their eyes in the Savior Jesus.**

**God says we are to listen to Jesus. Listening to Jesus shows our love and trust in Him.**

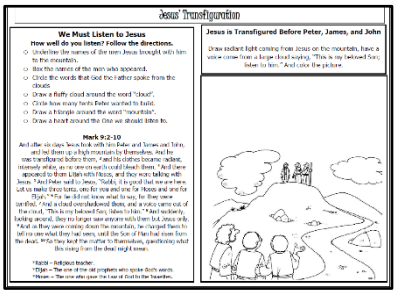
**How do we listen to Jesus today?** Let students answer.

**When we read and follow the Bible we listen to Jesus. That is the only way we can know what Jesus wants and that is the only way Jesus gave us to**

**know His will and desire for us. When we listen to Jesus, we learn how to live in a way that pleases God.**

**Jesus revealed His true identity as the Son of God to Peter, James, and John. This event was a special moment where Jesus showed a select few who He really was, beyond any doubt. Just like Jesus revealed Himself to the disciples, Jesus revealed Himself to us through the Bible. Everyone can know He is the Son of God today! We are blessed.**

## 3) Class Activity – Jesus' Transfiguration Activity Sheets 20-30 minutes


Jesus' Transfiguration

We Must Listen to Jesus

How well do you listen? Follow the directions.

- Underline the names of the men Jesus brought with him to the mountain.
- Box the names of the men who appeared.
- Circle the words that God the Father spoke from the clouds
- Draw a fluffy cloud around the word "cloud".
- Circle how many tents Peter wanted to build.
- Draw a triangle around the word "mountain".
- Draw a heart around the One we should listen to.

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus is Transfigured Before Peter, James, and John

Draw radiant light coming from Jesus on the mountain, have a voice come from a large cloud saying, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." And color the picture.

Hand out one set of sheets to each student along with crayons, pencils, and/or pencil crayons. Go through the sheets, read the instructions and questions aloud as a group. Ask if they have any questions while they do the sheets.

**Jesus is the greatest man who ever walked the earth. He is greater than Elijah and Moses two of the great men of the Old Testament who also did miracles and spoke words of God. Jesus is the Son of God. Only He lived a perfect life without sin to come to earth to save you and me. Only Jesus died and rose again, never to die again but to go to heaven to rule. Jesus is ruling the world now and has a home waiting for you in heaven if you will listen to Him.**

**Answers to page 2**
**Discuss:**

1. **Peter, James and John saw Jesus speaking to two men, men who had died many years ago. They were alive. This was terrifying and amazing to them. Both Moses and Elijah, were faithful believers in God. They represented things of the past in the Old Testament. People used to listen to them, the Law and what they said. Now who did God say we, Peter, James, John, and others are to listen to?** Jesus.
   Jesus has fulfilled the Old Law and prophets. We do not follow the Old Testament law with its 613 regulations and laws anymore. We follow and listen to Jesus and everything in the New Testament that He gave us through Him and by His authority He gave to the apostles and those who wrote the New Testament.

2. **Who do you think Jesus is**? Son of God, The Christ, Healer, Fulfiller of the Old Testament prophecies and promises, etc.

**Order of Events:**

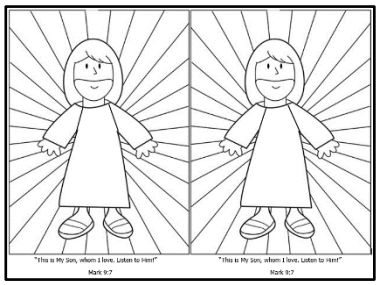
**5. 1. 4. 2. 3.**

**Write in the Answers:**

**1.** White
**2.** Moses & Elijah
**3.** Peter, James and John
**4.** Law
**5.** Prophets
**6.** Jesus
**7.** Jesus
**8.** Yes! *If any student says no, or not sure, make sure after class to talk with them gently and ask them why and see if they have any questions or issues they need help with to understand Jesus and understanding that following Him is best.

## 4) Optional – Jesus Transfigures Tealights 15 minutes

<u>Prep</u>
Cut one sheet in half – one half for each student.
Supplies: paper, crayons, utility or X-acto knife, scissors, wax paper, stapler, tape, electric led tealights or white glow sticks.

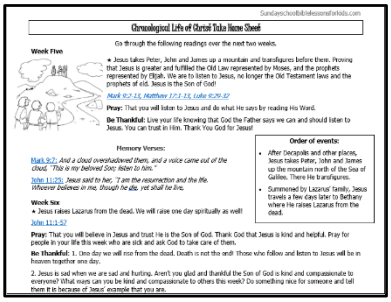


<u>Activity</u>
Allow students to color Jesus as He transfigured. As they finish, the teacher should take the x-acto knife and cut out the body of Jesus leaving arms, feet, etc.
***Do not let students use the sharp knife.

Then have students staple wax paper behind sheet to cover the open section of Jesus body. Next tape the paper to a tealight candle if using. Wrap it around and tape the top and bottom and middle as needed. If using glow sticks, bend it if possible as a ring, wrap the paper around the ring and tape it so it sits. If the glow stick doesn't bend, wrap the Jesus paper and tape it, then gently activate the glow stick and set it inside.

## 5) Take Home Sheet 2 minutes

Hand out one sheet to each student. Tell them that: **This sheet is to stay at your home to help you study God's word. It would be great if you can read all the passages and do the activities over the next two weeks. Your memory verses are on there as well.**



Sundayschoolbiblelessonsforkids.com

Chronological Life of Christ Take Home Sheet

Go through the following readings over the next two weeks.

Week Five

- Jesus takes Peter, John and James up a mountain and transfigures before them. Proving that Jesus is greater and fulfilled the Old Law represented by Moses, and the prophets represented by Elijah. We are to listen to Jesus, no longer the Old Testament laws and the prophets of old. Jesus is the Son of God!

Mark 9:2-13, Matthew 17:1-13, Luke 9:28-37

**Pray:** That you will listen to Jesus and do what He says by reading His Word.

**Be Thankful:** Live your life knowing that God the Father says we can and should listen to Jesus. You can trust in Him. Thank You God for Jesus!

Memory Verses:

Mark 9:7: *And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, 'This is my beloved Son; listen to him.'*

John 11:25: *Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,*

Week Six

- Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. We will raise one day spiritually as well!

John 11:1-57

**Pray:** That you will believe in Jesus and trust He is the Son of God. Thank God that Jesus is kind and helpful. Pray for people in your life this week who are sick and ask God to take care of them.

**Be Thankful:** 1. One day we will rise from the dead. Death is not the end! Those who follow and listen to Jesus will be in heaven together one day.

2. Jesus is sad when we are sad and hurting. Aren't you glad and thankful the Son of God is kind and compassionate to everyone? What ways can you be kind and compassionate to others this week? Do something nice for someone and tell them it is because of Jesus' example that you are.

**Order of events:**

- After Decapole and other places, Jesus takes Peter, John and James up the mountain north of the Sea of Galilee. There He transfigures.
- Summoned by Lazarus' family, Jesus travels a few days later to Bethany where He raises Lazarus from the dead.

## 6) Optional Snack – Popcorn Transfiguration 5-10 minutes

Remind students:
**Transfiguration means a complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful or spiritual state.**

Show the students a handful of popcorn seeds. Ask them:
**What do you think these are?** Popcorn seeds!
**What happens to popcorn seeds when they get hot?** They burst into white fluffy pieces we enjoy as a snack.

Hand out popcorn to each student.
**You've all done a great job this morning learning that Jesus transfigured on the mountain and proved again that He is the Son of God. He is worthy to be listened to and followed. Jesus changed like the popcorn. He became radiant and white. He transfigured instantly. While we eat our popcorn, let's talk about Jesus' transfiguration.** Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands.

**What was the most important thing you learned today? Why?**

**How do you think Peter, James and John felt when they saw Moses and Elijah – men who had lived hundreds of years earlier?**

***Note:** Some might ask how they knew it was Moses and Elijah. We are not specifically told but most likely when they heard the conversation between them and Jesus, they deduced it was Moses and Elijah. Or, Jesus specifically said their names. We are not sure how they knew, but the Bible says they did know for sure.

**Why do we listen to Jesus?** Because He is the Son of God. Moses said that Jesus the Prophet was to come. God the Father said to listen to Him. The Old Testament prophesied that He was to come and we should listen to Him. Jesus proved all of this by His miracles, rising from the dead, raising others from the dead, living a sinless life and more! We can trust Jesus. We should follow and listen to Him.

Clean up before moving on.

## 7) Optional Activity – Memory Verses 5 minutes

Have the students go to their Bibles and read the verses aloud as a class 2 times. Then include other options such as:

- You saying a word and having them repeat it as you go through the verse.
- Have students repeat a small phrase a few times before working on the next phrase.
- Have students repeat after each other.
- Ask students to think of hand gestures for each section of the verse.

**Mark 9:7**
*And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him."*

**John 11:25**
*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life.*
*Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,*

## 8) Closing Prayer

**Before the prayer, make sure the activities/snacks have been cleaned up.

Ask if there are any prayers the students want to share. Write them down to help you remember. Then ask all students to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray. Start below if you need help and then add the other prayer requests.

**Thank You God for Jesus Your Son. Thank You that we can learn about Jesus in the New Testament and how much He and You love us. We should listen to Him and the Words in the New Testament that teach us how to follow Him. May we trust and follow Jesus all the days of our lives. Help us to do so, keep**

**our hearts, minds, feelings, words, actions, and thoughts pure and focused on Jesus our Savior. Keep us from temptation and sin. Thank You for making it clear to us that it is Jesus only we should listen to.**

**We pray for those who could not come to worship today because of illness or weakness, help them to get better so they can return to us soon.**
**Thank You for our families, church families, and friends. It is in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

## 9) Things to Remember

Thank the students for coming.
Encourage them to share what they learned with their family.
Take their activity sheets home.
Make sure students leave with a responsible person.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!