



# New Beginnings

Sermon Based Small Group Plan

February 26, 2017

Transfiguration of the Lord

Sermon Title:

“Spooky Story”

Preaching: Rev Charles Svendsen

Scripture: Exodus 24:12-18 & Matthew 17:1-9

**Open in Prayer:** O God, light of the minds that know you, life of the souls that love you, strength of the thoughts that seek you: Help us so to know you that we may truly love you, so to love you that we may fully serve you, whose service is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Book of Common Worship*)

**Fellowship Question:** What did you think of the Transfiguration story when you were growing up?

**Take Time To Read The Scripture:**

**Study Questions for the Sermon and Text:** (choose as needed)

- Why does God summon Moses to the mountain? How are mountains viewed in the Bible? What are other mountain stories in the scriptures?
- Why did God make Moses wait six days? Why was there a cloud? What are other cloud stories in the Bible?
- The glory of the Lord looked like a consuming fire. Describe this, if you can. Does this story change or confirm your view of God?
- It had been six days since Peter confesses Jesus as the Christ. Why is this detail important?
- Why does Jesus invite only three and only these three to the mountain?
- What does it mean to be transfigured?
- What did Moses and Elijah represent?
- The voice from heaven reminds us of another voice from heaven story – Matthew 3. How are the words of the voice different? Why?
- Why does Jesus silence the three on the way down?

**The Challenge:** God is calling us to obedience. Jesus is the teacher and proclaimer of the Gospel.

**Prayer Options:** (choose as needed for your group)

- Pray for the Session as we make choices with our resources.
- Pray for 65 million refugees in our world today.
- Pray for the Manna ministry in the new home.
- Pray for the work of the Presbytery as they meet this Tuesday.

**Mission Encouragement for the winter:**

- **The shelter still needs sleepers for the rest of the winter season-HELP.**
- Thanks for all your support for Manna and your gifts of food.

**Leader notes:**

- Join us for our Ash Wednesday service on March 1 at 7:00pm
- Remember to let your group know that the WPC YouTube Channel has the sermon videos on Monday's - thanks to Paula! Just go to the WPC website and click on the YOUTUBE logo button.