

Together with Jesus

Week 9 - Matthew 17 and 18 - Transfiguration and Church Emergence

Matthew 17:1-13

The Transfiguration

Matthew notes an almost week long gap in the story, picking up again with Jesus bringing 3 of His disciples to see Him transfigured. This leads the disciples to ask about Elijah.

- **How do you suppose the disciples know it is Moses and Elijah?**

Matthew 17:14-23

Jesus Casts out a Demon Causing Epilepsy

Directly after coming down from the mount of Transfiguration, Jesus finds a scene that shows confusion on the part of the disciples.

- **Why do you suppose Matthew includes this story? What are we supposed to learn from it?**

Matthew 17:24-27

The Two Drachma Tax

Jewish tax collectors come to collect a tax for the Temple from Peter and Jesus. Jesus provides for the tax with a miraculous fish catch.

- **Jesus could have made a point here by not paying the tax. Why do you suppose He does?**

Matthew 18:1-11

Stumbling Into Sin

Jesus is presented with a question about who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus' response is that a powerless child is, and that the disciples should beware of leading children and themselves into sin.

- **Why do you think the disciples were talking about who was greatest?**

Matthew 18:12-20

Seeking the Lost

Jesus tells the parable of the lost sheep and then gives instructions on how to reconcile with those who have sinned.

- **What do you think the message of the parable of the lost sheep is?**

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Matthew 18:21-45 Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

Jesus then tells the parable of the unforgiving servant in response to Peter's question about how often a disciple should forgive.

- **Only Matthew records this parable. Why do you think it is important to him?**

Red Letter Challenge this week – You Give Them Something To Eat

This week, take Jesus' words from Mark 6:37, "You give them something to eat" to heart. There are many hungry people throughout our community and beyond, and many ways to meet their needs. Consider one of those ways this week and give someone something to eat.