

# IS JESUS FULLY GOD?

As the Son, Jesus reveals God's glory to humanity.



**TRANSFORMATION**  
for Adult LifeGroups

MATTHEW 17:1-13

JANUARY 10, 2018/JANUARY 14, 2018

## TODAY'S TEXT AND MAIN IDEA

**Text:** MATTHEW 17:5 (NIV), *While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"*

**Main Idea:** *As the Son, Jesus reveals God's glory to humanity.*

## FIRST THOUGHTS

- Have you ever had an encounter with someone famous? Maybe an athlete, performer, actor, politician, etc.? Describe a time when this happened. Did you recognize them or did someone else point them out? Were they what you expected? Did meeting/seeing them change your opinion of them?

## UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT

Jesus led Peter, James, and John to a mountain in the region of Caesarea Philippi, north of the Sea of Galilee. There they witnessed God's glory in Christ but missed the meaning of what they saw, at least at first. As they made their way down the mountain, the disciples questioned Jesus about Elijah's role in the arrival of the Messiah (Matt. 17:1-13).

They rejoined the other disciples, who had been unable to cast out a demon. Jesus showed them that they had no faith, and then He went on to talk about His death and resurrection. When they arrived in Capernaum, He sent Peter to catch a fish and to take the coin out of its mouth to pay their temple tax (17:14-27).

Then Jesus answered the disciples' question about greatness in His kingdom. He pointed to a child as the model for kingdom citizenship. He challenged the disciples to look after the children, and He reinforced His challenge with the parable of the lost sheep. After instructing His disciples about restoring a fellow believer, Jesus shared the parable of the unforgiving slave to drive home the need to forgive one another (18:1-35).

## EXPLORE THE TEXT

### PRESENCE

#### > Read Mathew 17:1-6

- This event took place six days after Peter's confession and Jesus' prediction of His death. Why is that important?
- What do you think the disciples were experiencing when they witnessed this? Why do you think it took place on a mountain top? What was significant about Moses and Elijah being there?
- Why do you think Peter wanted to build these shelters? Why do you think Peter did not offer to build shelters for himself and the other disciples?

### PURPOSE

#### > Read Matthew 17:7-9

- How does time with the Father prepare people to face challenges?
- Why were the disciples told to keep quiet about this experience until after the resurrection?

### PERSPECTIVE

#### > Read Matthew 17:10-13

- What was the connection between Elijah and John the Baptist?
- Once again Jesus told the disciples of His impending death, yet they did not grasp what He was saying. How is it possible that they could hear Jesus speak the words and still not understand His meaning?

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## SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE

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- Why are reverence and fear appropriate responses to the reality of God's glory revealed through His Son?
- How will spending time in Jesus' presence affect your life this week? The lives of those around you?

**Personal Challenge:** Can you seek a mountaintop experience with Jesus this week in the midst of your valley? Perhaps the best way to do this is to participate in the 21 Days to Change Your Life. If you haven't started yet, it's not too late! Check out [www.chetscreek.com/21days](http://www.chetscreek.com/21days)

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## UPCOMING LESSONS

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- Read Matthew 19:16-26
- What was holding the young man back? His love for his wealth. What a tragedy that he valued that which he could not keep (his wealth) more than that which he could never lose (eternal life).
- Ask God to begin to reveal to you what is holding you back from following him completely.

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## READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

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**14th** - Genesis 34-36; Luke 14 | **15th** - Genesis 37-38; Psalm 7; Luke 15 | **16th** - Genesis 39-41; Luke 16 | **17th** - Genesis 42-43; Psalm 5; Luke 17 | **18th** - Genesis 44-46; Luke 18 | **19th** - Genesis 47-48; Psalm 10; Luke 19 | **20th** - Genesis 49-50; Psalm 8; Luke 20