

FOR...PRAYER

MATTHEW 17:1-8 | ERIC SIMPSON | JANUARY 12, 2020

Matthew 17:1-3

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.

Transfigured = *metamorphoo* = changed after being with

➤ Prayer as the “be with” place

Matthew 17:4-5

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!”

➤ Prayer as the “interruption” place

Prayer as that space where God’s thoughts step in the way of your thoughts...

Where God’s ways step in the way of your ways...

Where God’s voice quiets your voice...

“God what have you to put in my mind now if only I can be large enough?” – Frank Laubach

Matthew 17:6-8

6 When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. 7 But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” 8 When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

➤ Prayer as the “look up” place

“If you think of a problem like a medieval walled city, then a lot of people will attack it head-on, like a battering ram. They will storm the gates and try to smash through the defenses with sheer intellectual power and brilliance. I just camp outside the city. I wait. And I think. Until one day—maybe after I’ve turned to a completely different problem—the drawbridge comes down and the defenders say, ‘*We surrender.*’ The answer to the problem comes all at once.” – Arthur McKinsey