Covenant Group and Personal Study Guide Bible Verses and Sermon Discussion for Aug 31, 2025 Scripture Focus: Mark 9:2-13

If you weren’t able to hear the sermon on Sunday, it can be viewed on the Church’s YouTube page. Note: The New International Version (NIV) Bible, published in 2011, is utilized for this Study Guide.

**Background**: “Mountain-top” moments give us opportunities to be encountered by the presence of God in ways that likely will not happen in the normal routines of life. Pastor Clint

“Mountains often had a significant role in God’s dealings with His people. In the English language, we have the expression ‘mountain-top experience’. This expression has originated from the Bible because of the dealings God had with His people on various ‘mountain tops.’ So, the phrase has come to mean a moment of transcendence – or epiphany; and in particular an experience of significant revelation given by God.” Resource: BeaconLight.org

1. Read Mark 9:1-8. Elijah and Moses appear with Jesus representing the Law and the Prophets. See Luke 9:28-36. Write, in your own words, what their conversation was about.
2. What might Peter's suggestion about constructing three shelters in verse 5 reveal about the way he still perceives Jesus?
3. Read again Mark 9:7 as well as Exodus 19:9 and 40:34. In these accounts we see that God came in a cloud. In Exodus, God used the cloud to guide, protect, and speak to Israel. What does God declare about the difference between Jesus and Elijah and Moses.
4. Read Mark 9:9-13. What instructions were the disciples given by Jesus on the way down the mountain, and what questions did this raise in their minds? What was His response?
5. Peter, James, and John were witnesses as Jesus was transformed on the mountain top. Paul wrote to the Church in Rome and Corinth about the transforming work of God. Read 2 Corinthians 3:18 and Romans 12:1-2, then write about the transforming work of Jesus that you have experienced or that you have seen in others.

God invites us to “mountain-top experiences”…a time in which we encounter Jesus in a special way. As with the disciples, we are offered these experiences so that we are strengthened, equipped, and reminded to walk with Jesus through the struggles of everyday life.

1. Meditate on a time in your life when you experienced an encounter with Jesus and how it affected you.
2. Let’s each consider how and when we can create that time to step away from the routine and be in a quiet space to hear Jesus.