

# Bible Study

**Date:** 29 January 2010.

**Passage:** Luke 9: 28 - 62

**Headings:**

1. Jesus Transfigured 28 - 36.
2. Deliverance of a Demon possessed boy 37 - 43a.
3. Jesus foretells His Betrayal 43b - 45.
4. The Greatest in the Kingdom 46 - 48.
5. Using the Name of Jesus 49 - 50.
6. Jesus rejected 51 - 56.
7. Discipleship means Full Commitment 57 - 62.

**Exposition:**

**1. Jesus Transfigured 28 - 36.**

V28. Just over a week later after He had spoken to His disciples Jesus took three of them, Peter, James and John with Him up a mountain to pray.

V29 - 30. While Jesus was praying the appearance of His face change and His clothes became a dazzling white. Suddenly two men, Moses and Elijah were talking to Him.

V31. They appeared in splendour and majesty, the glory of God, and spoke to Jesus of His approaching death which He was about to accomplished in Jerusalem which He had already told His disciples of in verse in verse 22.

V32. Peter and the other two disciples had fallen fast asleep, most probably while Jesus was praying as they did later in the garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 14:37). On awakening they saw the glory of the Lord and Moses and Elijah standing with Him.

V33. As Moses and Elijah were leaving, Peter realising how privileged and the significance of what they had seen wanted to make three tabernacles, one for Jesus and the others for the two prophets. Peter said this to Jesus not knowing what he was saying. He was placing Moses and Elijah on the same footing although he had already acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ the Son of God (verse 20).

V34 - 35. As he was speaking a cloud came and covered them all and they were afraid. The voice of God spoke to them from out of the cloud saying "this is My Son, the Chosen One; listen to Him" (HCSB).

V36. After God had spoken, Jesus was there alone with His disciples but at that time they told no one about what they had seen and heard.

**2. Deliverance of a Demon possessed boy 37 - 43a.**

V37 - 38. The following day as they had came down from the mountain a large multitude met Jesus and a man from out of the crowd shouting out pleading with Him to look with pity upon his son, his only child.

V39. The boy was possessed by an evil spirit which keeps taking control of him and throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth. Afterwards these attacks he is left bruised and wounded. This happened very often.

V40. The father had brought the boy to Jesus' disciples begging them to cast the spirit out but they couldn't do it.

V41. Jesus turning to the crowd called them and unbelieving and rebellious generation and how long will He be with them and put up with them, then He told the father to bring his son to Him. It is clear from the account in Mark's gospel that Jesus was not speaking to His disciples or the father (Mark 9:24, 27 - 28).

## *Bible* *Study*

V42. As the boy approached Jesus the demon knocked him down and sent him into a severe convulsions. Jesus rebuked the demon and it came out of the boy and He handed Him back to his father cured.

V43a. All the people were astonished at the manifestation of the greatness of God.

### **3. Jesus Foretells His Betrayal 43b - 45.**

V43b - 44. While the crowd were taken up with amazing at the things that He was doing Jesus turned to His disciples and warned them to listen very carefully to what He was about to say and not forget His words. The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands and those who were seeking to kill Him.

V45. The disciples could not understand what He was saying to them because it did not correspond with their own ideas as to how the Messiah would come as a mighty King to deliver Israel. The truth of what He said was hidden from them and they were afraid to ask Him what He meant.

### **4. The Greatest in the Kingdom 46 - 48.**

V46. As they were going along an argument broke out amongst the disciples as to which of them would be the greatest in the Kingdom of God.

V47. Jesus knowing the thoughts of their hearts took a little child and had him to stand by His side.

V48. He told His disciples that whoever is prepared to accept and receive a little child like this one He had set before them, in His Name, because he belongs to Him, receives and accepts Him and whoever receives and accepts Jesus also receives and accepts the Father who had sent Him. It is whoever thinks himself to be the least, the lowest amongst them will be great.

### **5. Using the Name of Jesus 49 - 50.**

V49. John then tells Jesus about someone whom they had seen casting out demons by using the power and authority of His Name and they had stopped him doing so because he did not belong to the group of disciples.

V50. But Jesus told him not to stop such people for whoever is not against them is on their side. It is obvious that as the man used the Name of Jesus the demons were cast out and as it is only in the Name of Jesus can this be done the man was a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **6. Jesus Rejected 51 - 56.**

V51. The time was now coming closer when Jesus would be taken up to be crucified so He resolutely, with decision and unwavering firmness, set His face to go to Jerusalem.

V52. He sent messengers ahead of Him to a Samaritan village to prepare for His arrival.

V53. It would appear that the disciples were welcome and had made the preparations but that when Jesus came they would not receive Him. This was because they understood that He only intended staying overnight and then journey on to Jerusalem. It had been of a long time a controversy between the Jews and Samaritans, which was the right place of worship; whether at the temple at Jerusalem, or whether at their temple on Mount Gerizzim? (Gill). This controversy was most probable the reason that they rejected Jesus.

V54. When James and John saw this they wanted permission off the Lord to command fire down from heaven to burn them up as Elijah had done (2 Kings 1:12).

## *Bible* *Study*

V55 - 56. But Jesus severely rebuked them because they did not have a right spirit for He, the Son of Man had not come to destroy lives but to save them. So they went to another village.

### **V7. Discipleship means full Commitment 57 - 62.**

V57. As they journeyed on the road to Jerusalem a man came to the Lord Jesus Christ made the bold statement that he would follow Him wherever He went.

V58. Jesus told the man what he could expect if he did indeed follow Him. Foxes have dens, birds have nests but he had not home to lay His head down.

V59. Then Jesus called another one to follow Him but this man was not prepare to follow Him immediately but wanted to attend to burying his father first. In other words he put it off and was not prepared to commit himself fully to following the Lord.

V60. "In saying to the man "let the dead bury the dead" Jesus was not speaking against or being disrespectful of burying the dead" (Gill). He had called the man to follow Him then and there to "take up his cross" which means full commitment, putting Jesus first (Matthew 10: 36 - 39).

V61. Another came to Him and said that he would follow Him after he had gone home and said goodbye to those at home.

V62. Jesus told him that if anyone has put his hand to the work and then leaves off and turns back is not fit for the kingdom of God. In giving His replies to these men, who apparently wanted to follow Him on their own conditions,. Jesus knew that they were not in earnest. Following Jesus cannot be done halfheartedly there has to be a full commitment or nothing at all.