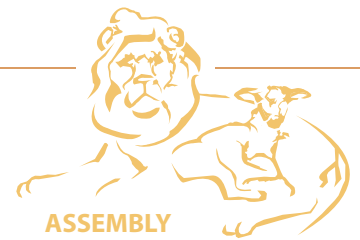


# THE TRANSFIGURATION

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: MARK 9:2-13



*The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.*

## LESSON IDEAS

### REALLY WHITE

#### Supplies

three sheets of white copy paper in various shades of white

(Less expensive copy paper looks white until you compare it to the more expensive bright white varieties. You can simply compare sheets from your work, home, and/or office supply store. Make sure you have one sheet of the brightest white you can find.)

Sort the sheets in order from dullest to most bright. Pull out the dullest and ask the children what color the paper is. After showing it to them, tell them that Jesus' clothes were really white – even whiter than the paper. Pull out the next whitest paper and show the children.

Then finally bring out the very whitest. Remind the children that Jesus' clothes were even whiter than the whitest paper we can find.

### REALLY BRIGHT

#### Supplies

a table lamp with a clear 100 watt light bulb (A white light bulb will not work for this as well as it is not bright enough.)

Place the lamp on a table with the clear light bulb in, but take the lamp shade off. Plug in the lamp but do not turn on the light. If you have room lights, turn them off unless that will leave the room completely dark. Ask the children to describe the light bulb. They should be able to see the filament (the wire inside the light bulb which glows when the light is turned on).

Tell them that seeing the light bulb before it is turned on is like seeing Jesus walk up the mountain. Then tell them the story of the transfiguration and how Jesus allowed his glory to shine.

Have them look at the light bulb from a close, but safe distance (about six feet). Turn the light bulb on. There should be a reaction to the bright light. Talk about how the children reacted when the light was turned on. Then discuss how the disciples didn't know what to say and were afraid when Jesus showed them His glory.

## THE TRANSFIGURATION

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: MARK 9:2-13

### BRIGHTER THAN BLEACHING

#### Supplies

- small dropper bottle of laundry bleach
- a piece of red cloth

The passage says that Jesus' clothes became so radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. The children probably do not know what bleaching does to cloth. To demonstrate, take a red piece of cloth and drop a few drops of bleach on it. Explain to the children the bleach makes things white and takes away the color.

Share with them Isaiah 1:18 that our sins are red as crimson but that God will make them white as snow. Use the illustration to explain that God, by the sacrifice of His Son, takes our sins (the red cloth) and makes them white as snow (the red cloth bleached white). Then draw the connection between the two passages. The One who transformed His own clothes brighter than the brightest white will also transform our hearts, taking away our sin.

## WHERE IS the Gospel?

*Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.*

Here in a moment, three of the disciples had the opportunity to glimpse the holiness, glory, and power of Jesus as God. They knew Jesus the ordinary man. But they didn't yet know Jesus, the Son, in glory. If Jesus was not both fully God and fully man, He could not have taken our punishment on the cross and then risen from the dead. And, in the mind of Jesus He was resolute. Jesus would take that penalty. He would die, and praise the Lord, He would also rise from the dead.

After the transfiguration Jesus gave His disciples strict orders not to tell anyone about what they had seen until Jesus had risen from the dead. They could not understand all that had been revealed to them at that time. They didn't understand what Jesus meant by being raised from the dead or even what His transfiguration revealed. Later they would come to more fully understand that in Jesus, God the Son had come down to earth to take on human flesh that He might die for the sins of man.

