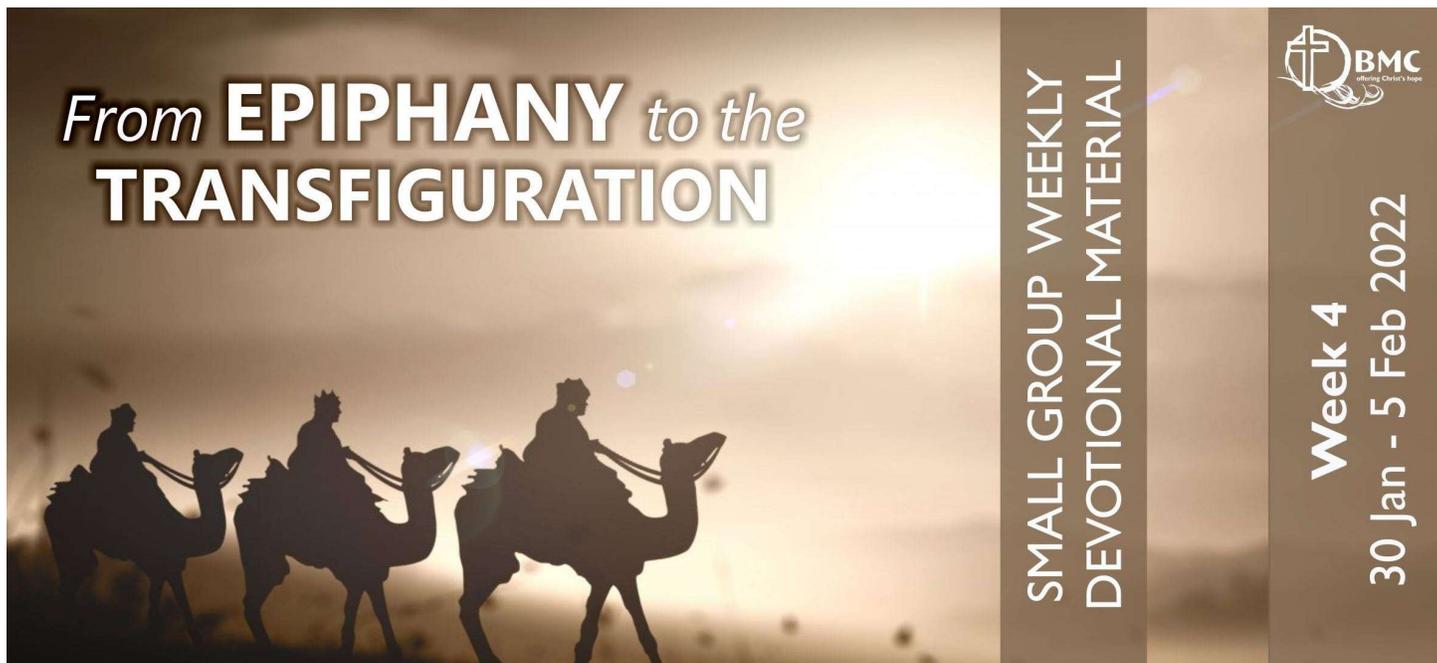




# From EPIPHANY to the TRANSFIGURATION

SMALL GROUP WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL

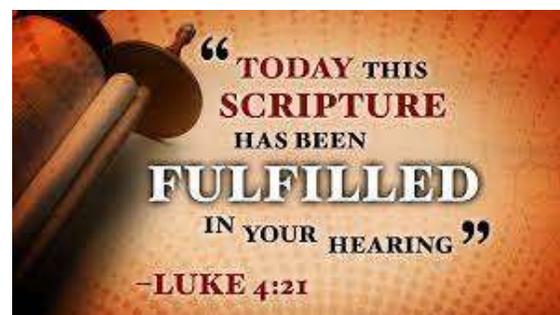
Week 4  
30 Jan - 5 Feb 2022



**Daily** Bible readings, a memory verse and a prayer for individual contemplation  
**Weekly** worship song, reflection and small group questions

## Epiphany to Transfiguration (6 Jan – 27 Feb)

- Week 4:** 30 January Scripture is fulfilled
- Week 5:** 6 February Jesus calls His first disciples
- Week 6:** 13 February Blessings and woes
- Week 7:** 20 February Love for enemies and judging others
- Week 8:** 27 February The Transfiguration



**Week 4**

### 30 January SCRIPTURE IS FULFILLED

Epiphany Year C	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Scripture is fulfilled	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30



**Praise and Worship:**  
Methodist Hymns - Hymns of worship | mawuena kissward  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eQzyXI\\_hm0&t=423s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eQzyXI_hm0&t=423s)

Luke 4:21-30

New International Version – UK

<sup>21</sup> He began by saying to them, 'Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'<sup>22</sup> All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. 'Isn't this Joseph's son?' they asked. <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to them, 'Surely you will quote this proverb to me: "Physician, heal yourself!" And you will tell me, "Do here in your home town what we have heard that you did in Capernaum."' <sup>24</sup> 'Truly I tell you,' he continued, 'no prophet is accepted in his home town. <sup>25</sup> I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. <sup>26</sup> Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. <sup>27</sup> And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed – only Naaman the Syrian.'<sup>28</sup> All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. <sup>29</sup> They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

## Reflection

the Scripture by: Nangamso Mankai

Luke's writings amongst other things reflects what scholars call a "Universal Gospel" where he seeks to invoke the Holy Spirit in those who encounter the Word. Verse 21 starts with the words "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing", where Jesus speaks to the spiritual nature of his audience wherein the Word of God would be revealed to those in the audience. It is interesting that even though they were amazed by His words, it seemed they were still doubtful. The utterance made of "Isn't this Joseph's son" reflect that there was some doubt on who Jesus is, and the anointing on his life. While He appealed to their spiritual side, it seems that they were still focused in the flesh.

Jesus healed numerous people so it would come as no surprise that the expectation was that he should do the same, if not more, in His own town. Jesus referred back to Old Testament miracles and argued that even they healed those who were unfamiliar to them. When you look at both stories referenced, you cannot help to think that those who were ultimately healed, being unfamiliar to the healer as they were, operated from a higher level of faith than those who were not healed. Once again, the simple comment made about Jesus being Joseph's son is testimony to their lack of faith.

Not in our daily walks with God, have we become so familiar with Him that we are able to possess the faith required to unlock His miracles. Our daily prayer should be to pray that God's words be fulfilled in our hearing and that we, like the widow and leper healed by Elijah and Elisha, may possess faith that can unlock our blessings.

The old saying goes "Familiarity breeds contempt" – we should be careful of that in our faith and ensure that we are constantly renewing our faith and knowledge of God so that we may attain His blessings.

Be blessed.

## QUESTIONS

### Small Group Questions:

1. Reflecting on your walk with God, would you say you are continuously growing or have become stagnant?
2. What do you need to do in order to access the miracles God has in store for us?
3. How often as you encounter God's word do you listen with your spiritual ears rather than your physical ears?
4. Does the Word live in you or is it simply a habit that you read the Bible and go to church?



## Daily Bible reading, memory verse and prayer:

**MONDAY, January 31, 2022:** [Psalm 56; 1 Kings 17:8-16; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16](#)

**Memory Verse:** 1 Cor 2:7 *“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery”*

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, we pray that you may whisper your wisdom to us. That you may reveal the secrets of the heavens in our daily lives”

**TUESDAY, February 1, 2022:** [Psalm 56; 2 Kings 5:1-14; 1 Corinthians 14:13-25](#)

**Memory Verse:** 1 Cor 14:20 *“Brethren, do not be children in understanding”*

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, we pray that we may grow and mature spiritually and in our faith.

**WEDNESDAY, February 2, 2022:** [Psalm 56; Jeremiah 1:11-19; Luke 19:41-44](#)

**Memory Verse:** Psalm 56:3 *“Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You”*

**Prayer:** Lord, even at our toughest times may we remember that you are fighting for us.

**THURSDAY, February 3, 2022:** [Psalm 138; Numbers 20:22-29; Acts 9:19b-25](#)

**Memory Verse:** Acts 19:22 *“But Saul increased all the more in strength”*

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, we pray, that despite where we have been and what we have done that You may fill us with Your word and may we grow stronger in knowing You

**FRIDAY, February 4, 2022:** [Psalm 138; Numbers 27:12-23; Acts 9:26-31](#)

**Memory Verse:** Acts 9:31 *“And walking in fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied”*

**Prayer:** Holy Spirit, as we start this year, may we walk in fear of you. May we find solace in who You are as God.

**SATURDAY, February 5, 2022:** [Psalm 138; Judges 3:7-11; Luke 4:42-44](#)

**Memory Verse:** Judges 3:9 *“When the children of Israel cried out to the Lord, the Lord raised up a deliverer”*

**Prayer:** Lord, where we have sinned against you, we plead for your mercy. Lord raise up a deliverer to save us from the ills we face.



It is important for parents to take time to lead the conversations of family time and to be honest with their children in these conversations.

**BY JENNY BLAKE – CHILDREN’S PASTOR**  
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**Sunday 30 January Week 4**

**Pray daily:** Set up family time for prayer and devotions and stick to this arrangement. All devotions should always begin by with a prayer. Ask a family member to pray or one of the children.

**Scripture Reading:** [1 Corinthians 13:1-13](#)

**Activity/Family Moment:**

First discuss what love is and that there are different kinds of love. E.g., Parents love for their child, sibling love, friend love etc.

You can talk about what each person loves about another family member. E.g., I love mom because...

Read - 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

- Ask what they learnt about God's love?
- What did they learn they are like without God's love?
- Ask each person to give an example of love i.e., sharing, and explain any of the characteristics that they may not understand.
- What part of God's love means the most to you?