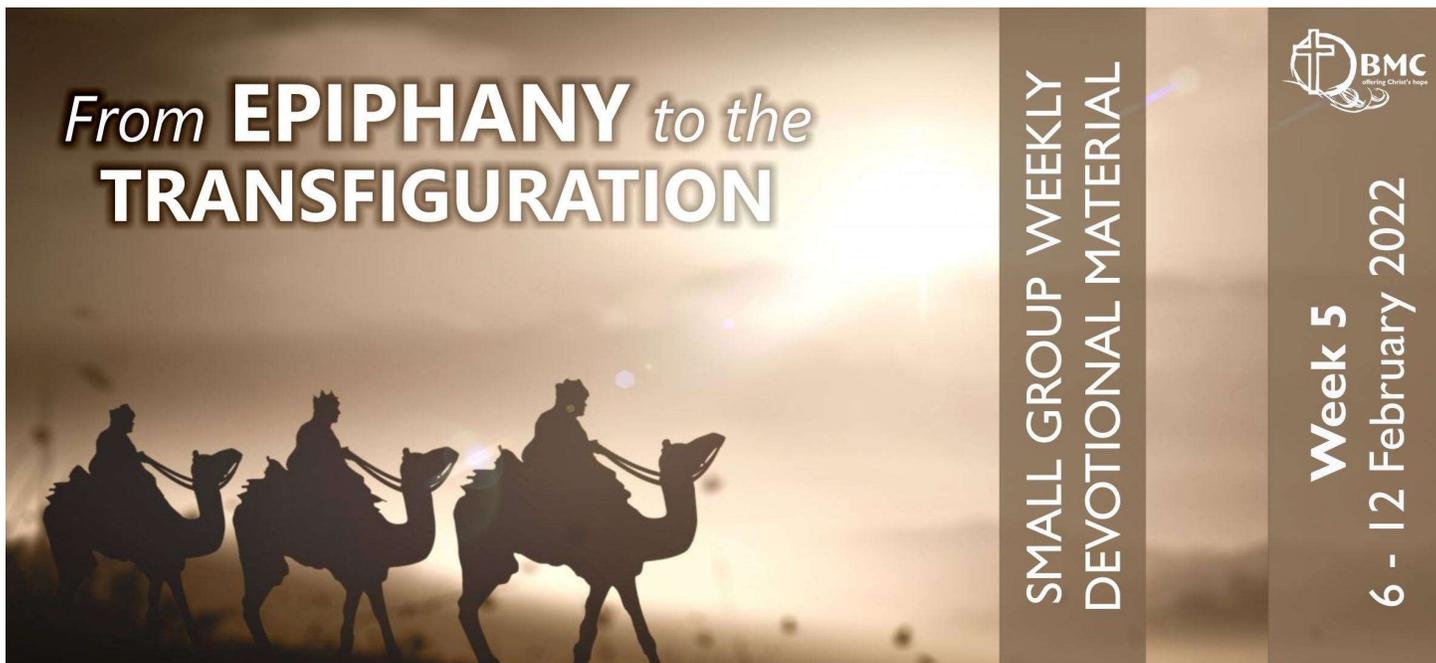




Week 5
6 - 12 February 2022

From EPIPHANY to the TRANSFIGURATION

SMALL GROUP WEEKLY
DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL



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 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 5

6 February JESUS CALLS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES

Epiphany Year C	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Jesus calls his first disciples	Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13)	Psalm 138	I Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11



Praise and Worship:

“Jesus call us! O’re the tumult...” MHB 157

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIYztKmZl_g

GOSPEL Luke 5:1-11 (New International Version – UK)

Jesus calls his first disciples

5 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret,^[a] the people were crowding round him and listening to the word of God. ² He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.' ⁵ Simon answered, 'Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.' ⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. ⁸ When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, 'Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!' ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people.' ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Reflection

On the Scripture by Tony Matthee

The call of Jesus to his first disciples is recorded in all the Gospels, but in Luke's account a much fuller description of the event is recorded. Let us therefore examine this event and learn from it what a genuine disciple of Jesus should be.

The first observation we make is that Peter, as a disciple (and example for us) is that he listened to Jesus and obeyed. Jesus had asked Peter to pull out a little from the shore so that he could teach the people. Notice that Peter was busy washing his nets and this would have been an intrusion, yet he listened and obeyed. We don't have Jesus speaking to us audibly, but we have the Bible that we can read and God will speak to us from its pages. The Holy Spirit in us will also whisper to us, but in both instances just to LISTEN is not enough. A genuine disciple needs to obey!

A genuine disciple recognizes the authority of Jesus. Peter and the others had been out fishing all night and caught nothing. You can't tell a seasoned fisherman when he is likely to make a catch, especially a carpenter or preacher. Yet we find Peter recognizing the authority of Jesus and doing what he says despite it making no sense at all. Jesus tells us to do many things that don't make sense like turning the other cheek or "washing one another's feet" (service). It goes against commonly accepted norms and standards, yet a genuine disciple of Jesus will recognize the authority of Jesus and DO what he commands.

Genuine disciples of Jesus are not self-indulgent. Peter could have basked in the glory of this great catch of fish, yet he recognized that it had absolutely nothing to do with his ability and admitted that he was just a sinful man. We can so easily be filled with pride in our achievements, particularly in ministry, but can we really take credit when we have been GIVEN our abilities as well as our gifts and talents, by Almighty God? A genuine disciple is not filled with pride in his/her achievements because he/she knows that they are nothing without God.

A genuine disciple is a fisher of men. This is what Jesus said to Peter and what he says to each one of us who would be his disciple. He has no hands and feet, only ours, to take the message of salvation to others. How we do that will depend on the gifting God gives us. Each of us has different gifts, but the purpose we have them is to extend the kingdom of God. We are all fishers of men and we make ourselves AVAILABLE to be used by God whenever the opportunity arises.

Finally, a genuine disciple will face an unknown future, but will always have Jesus with him/her. Peter and the other disciples left their nets and followed Jesus. We leave our old way of living and follow a new path of service. Jesus never abandoned Peter and will never abandon us. Genuine disciples will face many challenges in life, but will have NO FEAR for Jesus is with them.

QUESTIONS

Small Group Questions:

1. What does the Bible mean to people today? What does it mean to you? How important is it to you?
2. Try and make a list of what Jesus teaches that goes against modern norms and standards.
3. Is it really wrong to think good of our achievements? Discuss.
4. Discuss what gifting you think you may have (the group may concur with you or may differ from you. Hear them out.) and how it could be used to extend God's kingdom.
5. "The old has gone, the new has come". Discuss the implications of this.



Daily Bible reading, memory verse and prayer:

MONDAY, February 7, 2022: [Psalm 115](#); [Judges 5:1-11](#); [1 Corinthians 14:26-40](#)

Memory verse: 1 Cor. 14:33 *"For God is not a God of disorder but of peace."*

Prayer: Lord, there is so much disorder in our lives; may your Spirit so direct us that we might have peace. **Amen**

TUESDAY, February 8, 2022: [Psalm 115](#); [1 Samuel 9:15-10:1b](#); [1 Timothy 3:1-9](#)

Memory verse: 1 Tim. 3:5 *"If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?"*

Prayer: Father God I pray that all the leaders of our own Church are truly Godly men and women who look after their families well. **Amen.**

WEDNESDAY, February 9, 2022: [Psalm 115](#); [Isaiah 8:1-15](#); [Luke 5:27-32](#)

Memory verse: Luke 5:32 *"I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."*

Prayer: Gracious God, we are all sinners saved by Grace. Forgive me, I pray, for any sin I have committed. **Amen.**

THURSDAY, February 10, 2022: [Psalm 1](#); [Jeremiah 13:12-19](#); [Acts 13:26-34](#)

Memory verse: Ps. 1:6 *"For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish."*

Prayer: How wonderful, Lord, that you watch over us, your children. Please guide my steps throughout my life, to stay in the way of the righteous. **Amen.**

FRIDAY, February 11, 2022: [Psalm 1](#); [Jeremiah 13:20-27](#); [1 Peter 1:17-2:1](#)

Memory verse: 1 Pet. 1:24. *"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever."*

Prayer: Almighty God, our praise and thanks knows no boundaries when we consider the Bible we have. Gift of God without measure, we will travel together, my Bible and I. **Amen.**

SATURDAY, February 12, 2022: [Psalm 1](#); [Jeremiah 17:1-4](#); [Luke 11:24-28](#)

Memory verse: Luke 11:28 *"Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."*

Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus, your Word have I hid in my heart. I resolve to obey all its teaching to demonstrate my love for You. **Amen.**



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 6 February - Week 5

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: Luke 5:1-11

Activity/Family Moment:

Watch the follow video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y_IHk---CsE

You could play:

Fishers of Men Game: This game is like tag. One person will be the fisherman, and everyone else will be the fish. Place a hula hoop in the middle of the play area. Whenever a fish is tagged they must go and stand in the net (hula hoop). The game is over whenever everyone has been caught. Depending on how many kids you have you may want to use more than one hula hoop or even a large blanket.

- What stood out to you in todays reading? (from the passage or the video)
- What do you think Fisher of Men means?
- Do you think you could be a disciple of Jesus? Do you think you could follow Jesus?
- What ways can you follow Jesus?