

Jesus' Invitation

O God, who before the passion of your only -begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Look

Once in a while, we come across a story that seems unbelievable. Maybe you've read a story on the internet of someone surviving a terrible accident that just seems too good to be true. Maybe someone has told you of being inexplicably healed from an illness. Maybe you've read about someone's encounter with God that seems unreal.

1. What is your first reaction to a story like this? Are you usually more open minded or more skeptical?
2. Do you find yourself asking questions to learn more about it? Or do you tend to try to change the subject so you don't have to hear any more about it?

Book Luke 9:28-36

A few days after Jesus acknowledges that he is the Christ, Jesus and his friends go up the mountain to pray. While they are there, Moses and Elijah appear with Jesus and Jesus' appearance changes. And, just like at Jesus' baptism, a voice from a cloud says about Jesus, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

1. Do you find this story believable? Why or why not?
2. When you read this passage, what questions do you have?

Took

Canon Linda said that when the holy gets close to us we get scared and so we start asking questions. But, our questions drive us out of the story and back into our own concerns and worries. She said that Native American storytellers begin stories by saying, "I don't know if this is the way it happened, but I know the story is true."

1. What truth do you see in the story of the transfiguration, even if the events might not have unfolded exactly as the story is told?
2. What questions are you asking about your faith life now that might be keeping you from being closer to God?
3. How can you look past those questions, and allow yourself to stand in the presence of the holy one?