

Lesson #1-25***The Transfiguration***

Matthew 16:24–17:8

**Key Verse:**

But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid."
Matthew 17:7

The Point:

God tells us to listen to Jesus.

Advent Theme (February 17—March 3)

God's Power

Transfiguration Science

Learn the meaning of transfiguration through science.

You will need:

- † 9-oz. clear plastic cups
- † Water
- † Food coloring
- † Clear-colored bleach

Preparation:

1. **Safety precautions:** Bleach can be a powerful chemical. When doing this experiment, protect your hands and clothes by wearing rubber gloves and protective clothing. When not in use, keep bleach out of reach of participants. Never allow participants to touch or use these chemicals.
2. Fill one 9-oz. plastic cups halfway with water. Fill another cup halfway with clear bleach.
3. You may wish to test out the experiment a couple of times. This will help you see the results and know what to expect when you do the experiment during class.
4. Make sure to use clear bleach. The water will only become clear again if you use clear bleach.

Transfiguration Science

Learn the meaning of transfiguration through science.

Instructions:

1. Today we are going to hear another story from the New Testament. In this story, three of the disciples witness something called the transfiguration of Jesus.
2. Have you ever heard the word “transfiguration” before? What do you think that means? Answers will vary.
3. Place the cup of water in front of you. **When something is transfigured, it goes through a special change. Look at this water. What color is it?** *[It is clear.]*
4. Put a few drops of food coloring into the water. **What happens when I add food coloring to the water?** *[It changes color.]*
5. **It changes color.** Show the group the cup of bleach. **Right here I have a cup of bleach. What do you think will happen if I poured the bleach in my cup of water?** *[Answers will vary.]*
6. Pour the bleach into the colored water. The water should turn clear once again. **What happened when I added the cup of bleach?** *[The water turned clear again.]*
7. **When I added the bleach to the colored water, the water was transfigured before our eyes. It changed! In today’s story, Jesus is transfigured in front of the disciples. In a few minutes we will read the story and find out what happened.**