

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99

*Proclaim the greatness of the Lord;
worship upon God's holy hill. (v9)*

2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2

Luke 9:28-36

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, mighty & immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- 2 Corinthians 3:12--4:2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, & where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. ^{4:1} Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. Look back over *chapters 2 & 3*. What is "such a hope"?
2. How does St. Peter's action in *Luke 9:33* & the Disciples inability to listen to Jesus- esp. regarding his Passion predictions- show that their minds are still veiled (v14), until the Resurrection & teaching of *Luke 24*?

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. Read *Luke 9:23-27*. Jesus plainly tells us he is our first priority (cf. *1st Commandment**). Read also *9:51-53*; Jesus is clear that his first priority leads to the cross (cf. *22:42*). How does everyday discipleship (incl. daily Bible reading & prayer, weekly worship & offerings) move you from "my will" to "thy will be done", that is, teach you to "listen to him"? See *Philippians 2:3-8, 4:2*; **Exodus 20:1-6*; **Small Catechism* available bookofconcord.org
4. St. Paul contrasts how Moses reflected God's glory (v13) while believers are transformed into that glory (v18; cf. *1 John 3:2*). What's more is that Moses had to veil the glory. Review in *SC Holy Baptism* & the *Table of Duties*. How do these show you that you are being transformed?

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Authentic mission requires listening to Jesus, not our own bright ideas (*4:1*; *Luke 9:33*); how does your congregation tell the difference? How does your congregation's unique, local mission statement help?
6. Freed from the powers of sin, death, & the devil (cf. *Romans 8*), Christians are free to live holy, godly lives in ministry/ service of the gospel (*3:8,17, 4:3-5*; *Romans 12:1-2*). To what will your friends & neighbors point in your everyday life as evidence that ministry? See #4 above for hints

Festival of Our Lord's Transfiguration

03.02.25

Series: DF²

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

*Our life together **Developing Fully Devoted Followers of Jesus***

Engaged

It's by God's mercy we're engaged in this mission

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged
in this ministry, we do not lose heart. (4:1)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him! (*Luke 9:35*)

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