

My Story

1. It has been a while since Connection Groups last met. Did you have any special moments or challenging circumstances over Advent, Christmas, or New Year’s that you’d like to share with the group?

2. Did you make any New Year’s resolutions this year? Have you given up on them yet? (Studies show that 35% of those who make such resolutions will break them by the end of January.)

Why do you think our culture places so much emphasis on making resolutions at the beginning of a new year, especially when so few people take them seriously?

Digging Deeper

Review Luke 9:28-36.

1. What do you think was the purpose of Jesus’ transfiguration?

2. We are told what the three apostles witnessed atop the mountain, but how do you think Jesus *felt* during his transfiguration? What was its significance to him?

What was its effect on the apostles who witnessed it? Why?

3. What is significant about the timing of the transfiguration? What had Jesus been thinking about? (See Luke 9:18-27.)

Taking It Home

1. Jesus' transfiguration was an opportunity to affirm who he was in connection to his heavenly Father—especially during a troubling time. How much more, then, do we need to do the same! Of course, his transfiguration involved a powerful physical change, which is not something his followers can expect in this lifetime. However, we are all challenged to connect with God more powerfully through an ongoing *spiritual* transformation. (See Romans 12:1-2.) What do you think Paul meant by “the renewing of your mind” in that passage?

