

FAMILY GROUPS WEEK TWO CYCLE B

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10 One family member reads the Gospel aloud.

Theme: *God wants us to listen to Jesus our friend.*

Opening Prayer: Jesus, we love you. Thank you for listening to us when we pray. Help us to always listen to you. Amen.

Making Connections:

Jesus took his friends Peter, James, and John to a very tall mountain to give them a special gift. Jesus wanted them to know that he was really God's Son. While they were on the mountain, Jesus' clothes became dazzling white, and God said, "This is my beloved Son... listen to him" (Mark 9:7). Like the apostles, we are Jesus' friends and need to listen to him.

FAMILY SHARING TIME

Use the questions below to guide your family discussion.

Preschool children: Whom do you listen to? What do you have to do in order to listen? Who listens to you? Do you listen to Jesus?

Primary-grade children: Why is it good to listen to Jesus? Discuss. Who are other people you should listen to? Why? Who are people you should not listen to? Why? Who listens to you?

Preteens: What are some ways that Jesus speaks to you? Discuss. What do you do that shows that you listen to Jesus? Do you tell your friends about Jesus? Why or why not? Do they listen to you when you talk about your faith? Share.

ACTIVITY

Materials needed: paper, pencils or markers

Family members will spend a few minutes in a quiet place and listen to the various sounds. Then the family will gather together and share what sounds they heard.

Family members can each draw a picture of the Transfiguration and write, "Listen to him." These pictures can be put in a prominent place to remind everyone of the importance of listening to Jesus and to one another. Optional: Use other art mediums such as clay, pipe cleaners, or craft sticks to illustrate the Transfiguration.

Suggestion of the Week: Every day as a family, allow time for each family member to share his/her experiences of that day. Each member repeats one thing he/she heard the person say.

Praying Together

Gather around a prayer table, with a Bible, crucifix, and lit candle.

All: Jesus, help us to listen more to you and to each other. Amen.

Conclude by holding hands and reciting a familiar prayer together. Share some sign of peace.