

# Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

## The Making of an Apostle - Part 4 The Big Reveal

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### Introduction

Jesus brought Peter, James and John to a high mountain where, in awe, they witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus. His face and clothes were transformed to reveal His glorious and divine nature (similar to the Book of Revelation's description of His second coming). This encounter was a 'big reveal' of the true nature of Jesus Christ, and was hugely significant for the three men as future disciple makers. What can we learn from their experience as we seek to become effective disciple makers?

**Read** Matthew 17:1-18, 2 Peter 1:16-18

### Discuss

1. Jesus brought Peter, James and John up on a high mountain where they experienced the full reveal of the Son of God in His glory. What's your most exceptional experience with God in your spiritual journey so far, and how did it change you?
2. Could anybody convince you that love doesn't exist? What would it take for you to doubt your faith that God is real?
3. One important aspect of being a disciple maker is offering a 'full reveal' of Jesus. This was true for Peter, who saw Jesus in all His glory during His transfiguration. How can we facilitate the revelation of God to another person? Share how you have witnessed another person encounter the reality of God in a unique way.
4. A person should fall in love with Jesus, not just with His teaching, church life, fellowship or the blessings of God. Why is it so important that we love God for who He is, not just for what He does or His truth? Reflect on the greatest commandment and how it relates to this.

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5. When assessing the historical accuracy of ancient manuscripts, historians consider the time difference between an event's occurrence and when it was first written down, as well as the volume of surviving manuscripts. The smaller the time difference, the more reliable the source, particularly when eyewitnesses were alive to verify its accuracy. The more numerous the manuscript, the greater its veracity. Ancient Greek and Roman manuscripts, such as those written by or about Ceasar, Aristotle, Homer and Plato, number fewer than 50 and are dated more than 1000 years after the existence of the authors. By contrast, manuscripts of the New Testament number more than 24,000 and are dated less than 25 years after the life of the author (Evidence That Demands a Verdict by Josh Mc Dowell, part 4 A, section 2 C). What other evidence corroborates the Bible as a unique and reliable collection of writings to be taken seriously?
6. During the transfiguration, God the Father supernaturally proclaimed, "This is my beloved Son... listen to Him." It is paramount that discipleship is focused on the Lordship of Christ and that people are disciplined to grow in obedience to Him. How can we model this to another person?

### **Respond**

To be effective disciple makers, we need to have personal and authentic encounters with Jesus through the Holy Spirit, so that we can share the same revelation with others. Take a few moments to renew your obedience to be a disciple maker like Peter. Who can you invite into your world and disciple towards Christ? Who could you read the Bible with? Share this with your group and pray for this individual together.