

HOPING

Speak Lord, your servants are listening! You are our Hope!

Some quiet music may help bring the group/yourself to stillness. We take a few quiet moments to be present to what has touched our hearts in the text and in our sharing.

Read the text (together) again.

1. What hope or prayer does the text stir in your heart?
2. What do you want to say to the Lord about what you have heard?
3. What word about your life (a word of thanksgiving, sorrow, joy, peace, petition) do you now bring to Jesus?

We are invited to speak our hope or our prayer aloud. Allow spaces for silence in between the spoken prayers.

Closing Prayer:

**O God, transforming presence,
Your light can dazzle
the darkest moments of doubt.
May we learn to listen to your
Son, the Beloved One, Who
offers us hope and possibility,
and transforms our darkness
into light. Amen**



***Our deepest prayer is one that rises from the heart
in response to the realities of life.
(Michael Casey, OCSO, adapted.)***

Hearing Happening Hoping

Journey with God's Word this Lent



**Week 2: Mark 9: 2– 10
The Word on the Mountain**

Before we read, we pray together: God our Father, source of all light, You have sent your Son into the world, to reveal yourself to all your children. Send Your Spirit upon us now, that we may meet Jesus in the Word that comes from you. Amen.

Mark 9: 2-10

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; Listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, debating what rising from the dead could mean.

HEARING ~ *Speak Lord, your servants are listening!*

Read the text 2-3 times. Reflect and share on **some** of the following:

1. What words or phrases do you like?
2. The disciples are left arguing with each other. What, in this story, puzzles you or what confuses you?
3. How would you describe the different feelings of the disciples?

HAPPENING ~ *This Scripture mirrors our lives.*

Let this passage cast light on our lives.

Let us read the text again. Reflect and share on **some** of the following:

1. In the Scriptures mountains are often places where people encounter God. Can you recall a place where you have felt deep peace or had a sense of being in tune with God?
2. Like the disciples we too can have brushes with Mystery, moments that caught our 'hearts off guard' and blew them open, like the birth of a child, the experience of deep love, the beauty of nature, etc. Can you recall such experiences?
3. Peter wants to stay on the mountain, but Jesus' way involves returning to the everyday. What happens when we move from life's "highs" to the everyday? Where do we see this in our world today?
4. When the disciples are confused by Jesus they withdraw and debate the matter among themselves. How do we cope when we no longer understand the people in our lives?



Suggestion:

If you found the passage difficult, put yourself into it: "Jesus took me with him and brought me I said to Jesus ..."