

Today in the Gospel of Mark we encounter the story of Jesus and His Transfiguration. As the story relates, Jesus takes three of His disciples, Peter, James and John, up the mountain to pray. As they are on the mountain, Jesus transfigures before them, becoming dazzling white. As this happens, Moses and Elijah appear on either side of Jesus.

The disciples immediately know that this is indeed a profound experience that they are having with the Lord. They are seeing first hand who this man really is. I mean, they have had a lot of clues, but by the many questions that the disciples still have with Jesus, there is room to think that maybe they still just don't get it. But, now, there is no doubt in their minds that Jesus is the Son of God. On top of that, the Lord God speaks to them; "this IS my beloved son. Listen to him."

Sometimes, I believe that we today, still might have trouble believing that Jesus is the Son of God. Why should I listen to Him? Even after the proof, the testimonies, we still might be listening to that voice of darkness (the devil) that casts doubt into our minds and hearts about everything that Jesus has done and everything that He has revealed to us.

During these Lenten days, we are called more than ever to turn away from the voice that tries to lure us away from God and the many God things that He wants us to do. God created a wonderful life for us to live and allows us to do good works in His name.

We have this opportunity to repent and return to our belief in the Gospel. For some of us, it might be the first time that we really come to believe in the gospel and in Jesus. Maybe it is a time of renewal. Maybe it is a time that we can go deeper. Maybe this Lent is the time we finally cast off those old grudges and hurts.

Let this time of penance, fasting and prayer be a time of Transfiguration for us. Let us show to the world the true light of Christ, and let us more deeply love and serve our God.

In Christ's Love,

Fr. James