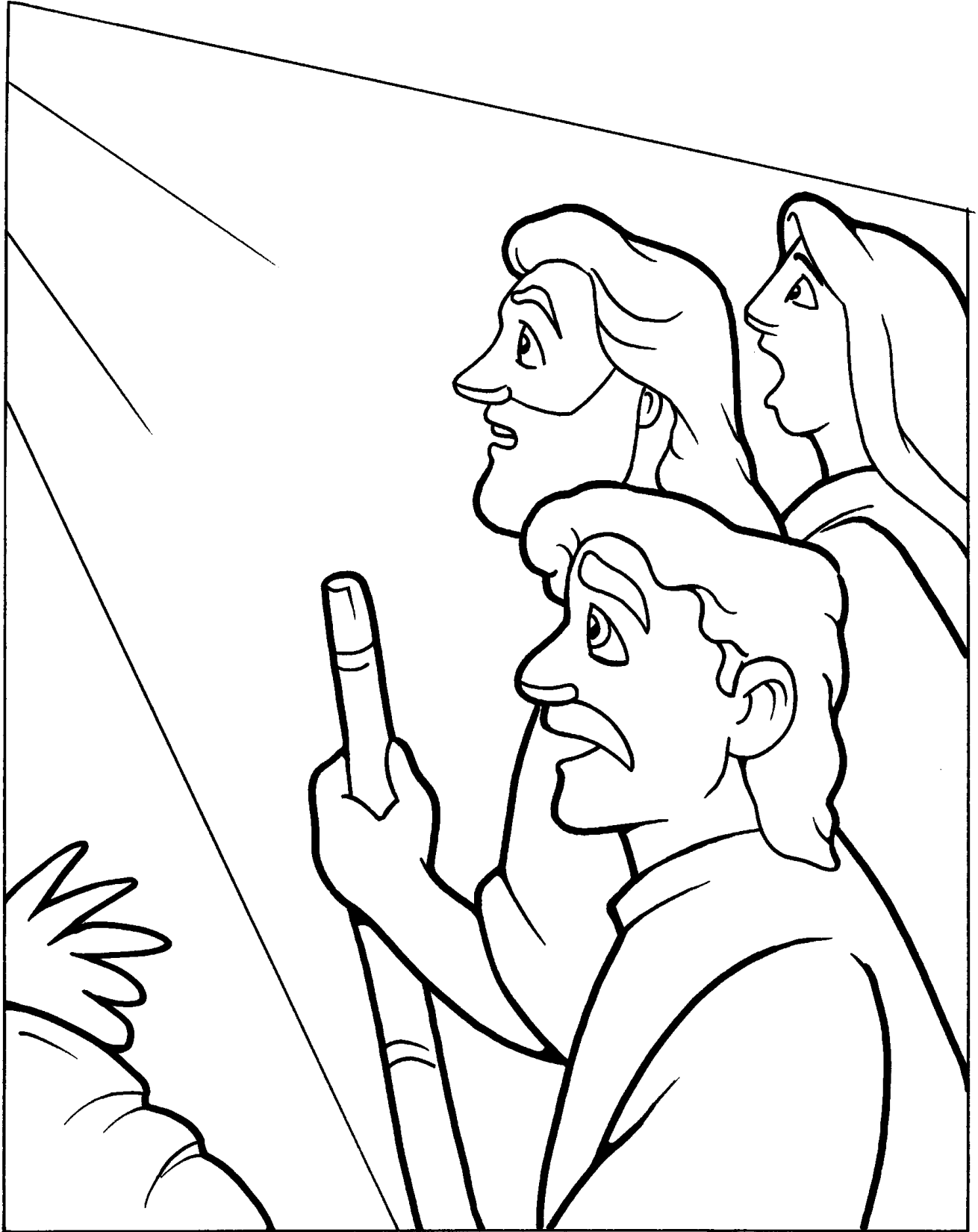


**Story Time - Read the story to the children**  
**Lesson 199: THE TRANSFIGURATION**  
**MATTHEW 17:1-13**

Six days later, Jesus took Peter, James, and John the brother of James and went up on a high mountain. They were all alone there. While these followers watched Him, Jesus was changed. His face became bright like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. Then two men were there, talking with Him. They were Moses and Elijah. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you want, I will put three tents here--one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While Peter was talking, a bright cloud came over them. A voice came from the cloud and said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to Him!" The disciples with Jesus heard this voice. They were very afraid, so they fell to the ground. But Jesus came to them and touched them. He said, "Stand up. Don't be afraid." The disciples looked up, and they saw that Jesus was now alone. As Jesus and the disciples were coming down the mountain, He gave them this command: "Don't tell anyone about what you saw on the mountain. Wait until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead. Then you can tell people about what you saw." The disciples asked Jesus, "Why do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come before the Messiah comes?" Jesus answered, "They are right to say Elijah is coming. And it is true that Elijah will make all things the way they should be. But I tell you, Elijah has already come. People did not know who he was, and they treated him badly, doing whatever they wanted to do to him. It is the same with the Son of Man. Those same people will make the Son of Man suffer." Then the disciples understood that when Jesus said Elijah, He was really talking about John the Baptist.

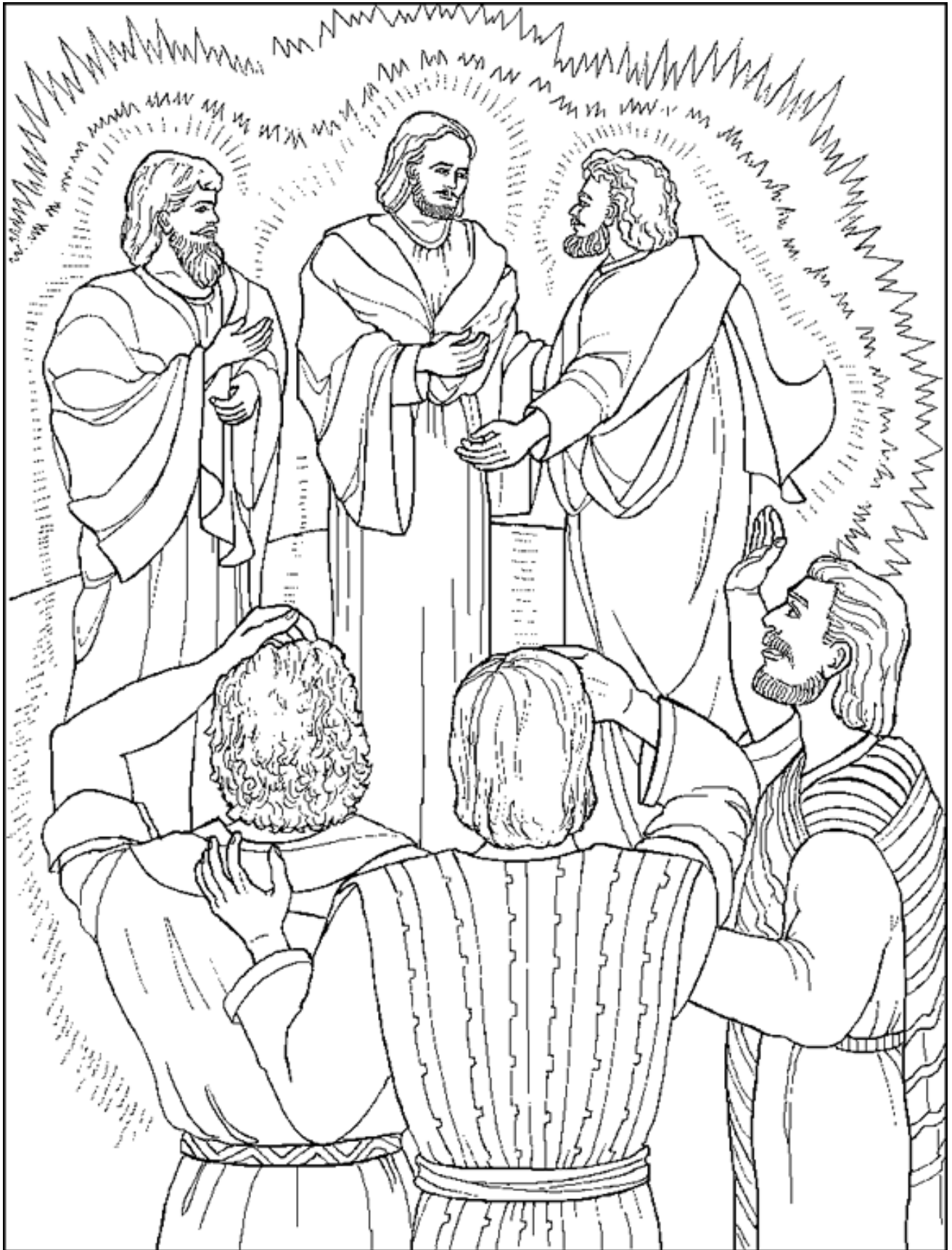
## 199. THE TRANSFIGURATION

### MATTHEW 17:1-13



“Six days later, Jesus took Peter, James, and John the brother of James and went up on a high mountain. They were all alone there. While these followers watched him, Jesus was changed. His face became bright like the sun, and His clothes became white as light.” **MATTHEW 17:1-2**

## 199. THE TRANSFIGURATION



While these followers watched him, Jesus was changed. His face became bright like the sun, and His clothes became white as light. Then two men were there, talking with him. They were Moses and Elijah.

**MATTHEW 17:2-3**

# 199. THE TRANSFIGURATION

## MATTHEW 17:1-13

### **MEMORY VERSE:**

*"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"* MATTHEW 17:5

### **Review Questions**

#### **True or False**

1. Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother to a high mountain all by themselves.
2. When Jesus was on the mountain, He changed right in front of them, and His clothes became as black as sack cloth.
3. Two men were talking with Jesus, they were Moses and Elijah.
4. Peter wanted to leave right away.
5. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here."

#### **Questions**

1. What happened to Jesus on top of the mountain? What did His clothes look like?
2. Who were the other two men talking with Jesus?
3. What did Peter want to do?
4. When Peter was telling Jesus that he wanted to make three tents – one for Jesus, one for Moses, and one for Elijah, what happened while he was still talking?
5. When the disciples heard the voice and saw the bright cloud, what did they do?
6. What did Jesus do to the disciples when they bowed down to the ground and were afraid? What did He say to them?
7. When the disciples looked up again, what did they see?
8. When they came down the mountain, what did Jesus tell His disciples to do about what they saw?
9. What did Jesus say about Elijah coming first before the Son of Man, or Messiah, would come?
10. When Jesus talked about Elijah coming first, who did He mean?

## Lesson 199 Activity

### Metamorphosis

Bring a tape of some beautiful instrumental music to class, or if you play an instrument, play (this is optional, of course!) Begin to play the music and explain to your class that you want some volunteers to act out the phenomenon of the metamorphosis of a butterfly. Tell them that metamorphosis means 'change', or 'rebirth'. (try to see if all the children want to act this out!)

Talk the children through it like this, "You start as a tiny egg, so scrunch up small and round. Then, you hatch into a caterpillar, so stretch out long and squirm around. You eat some leaves and you begin to spin your cocoon; roll over and over. Now, it's time to break carefully out of your cocoon. Stretch your wings out to dry.

Next, stand up and fly away!"

Have as many children that want to give it a try!

Now, discuss:

Have any of you ever seen a caterpillar go through the incredible change to become a butterfly? Some of you might have watched as a caterpillar spun its cocoon and later emerged as a butterfly; it is an absolutely amazing thing! We call this process metamorphosis.

A metamorphosis is a change on the outside that comes from the inside. It means to be changed from one form to another. A caterpillar changes from the inside out into a butterfly. It goes through metamorphosis.

Today we learned about the greatest metamorphosis that human eyes have ever seen! Jesus changed to show His glory to His disciples. This event is called the transfiguration. It was a pretty amazing thing for the disciples to see. While they were in this private place together, Jesus allowed them to see something very special. He was transfigured, which means He went through a change of form (kind of like a butterfly goes through a metamorphosis)! Can you imagine how they felt to see this?

For the disciples it must have been almost blinding for them to look upon Him. It says His face was shining like the sun, and his clothes were shining white! What was happening here? Jesus, who was God in human flesh, was allowing His glory as God to radiate from within in such a way that He changed on the outside to the majestic, shining, glorious King that He is!

## **LESSON 199 - OPTIONAL GAME:**

### **The Pointing Game**

Pick out one child at a time. Explain that they only have one job, to point to what you say. Say things like, "Where's the door?" "Where's the chalkboard?" "Where's the clock?" Have the child point out each item you say, then go to the next child and point out two or three things. Make sure they don't say anything, just point!!

Let the children that want to each have a turn. Each time emphasize that they only have one job to do, point the way to each thing you call out.

Both the law and the prophets only had one job to do, point the way to Jesus. Everything that Moses and Elijah had written would be fulfilled by Jesus, the Savior of the world. So Peter, James, and John were to see that Moses and Elijah had pointed the way to Jesus. That was their only job as the Law (which was represented by Moses, who wrote down God's commandments), and the Prophets (which was represented by Elijah, one of the greatest prophets of the Bible!).

### **PRAYER**

Lead the children in a prayer of their dependence on Jesus and ask the Lord to come and touch and say to each one, "Do not be afraid, I am all you need."