

The Jesus We Never Knew  
**“How God Uses the Mountain”**  
Mark 9: 2-13

<sup>1</sup>And he said to them, "I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

**The Transfiguration**

<sup>2</sup>After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup>His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

<sup>5</sup>Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

<sup>7</sup>Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

<sup>8</sup>Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. <sup>10</sup>They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant.

<sup>11</sup>And they asked him, "Why do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?"

<sup>12</sup>Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah does come first, and restores all things. Why then is it written that the Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected? <sup>13</sup>But I tell you, Elijah has come, and they have done to him everything they wished, just as it is written about him."

Mark 9:1-13 (NIV)

**Mark 9: 2-13**

**Questions for personal and small group study and reflection:**

1. Think about what Jesus has just disclosed in Mark 8:31-38. Why do you think Mark records that Jesus reveals Himself so gloriously just six days later?
2. Jews in Jesus' time were very familiar with Elijah and Moses. Moses stood for the Law. Elijah represented the Prophets. These were the 2 main divisions of the Jewish Scriptures. Why would God have them appear now with Jesus?
3. God speaks in a cloud in 9:7 to the disciples, Peter in particular. What's significant in this ... that they saw only Jesus (9:8) and no one else?
4. As Christ followers, how are we then to differentiate the voice of Jesus (9:7-8) from other competing voices in the world?
5. Do you think the disciples were in ear shot of the conversation in verse 4? What do you think Elijah, Moses and Jesus are talking about in light of what verse 10 says? See also Luke 9:31
6. In Mark 9:11-13, why do the disciples ask Jesus about Elijah? Who is Jesus speaking about when he says, "Elijah has come," ?
7. What purposes for us does Jesus illustrate for His followers in the Transfiguration? (Why is this picture/experience needed?) What hope does each follower possess in understanding Jesus' transfiguration?