



Grain

"To believe is to remember." Abraham Heschel

"In Hebrew, remembering isn't just cognitive, it means doing what you remember. You remember and take it to heart." Skip Moen

Field

1 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. 3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" Matthew 17:1-5

Thoughts

We don't have a Transfiguration season, only a single day at the end of Epiphany before jumping into Lent. And it generally isn't a day we gear up for. You probably have never been asked, "So, what are you wearing for Transfiguration Sunday?"

I wouldn't suggest trying to linger in the Transfiguration story or our own experiences of God's presence the way the disciples attempted, although we probably sometimes do. We can't contain God in dwellings we build, or manufacture unchanging moments. But don't forget your epiphanies about God's presence either. Remembering how God has worked in our lives is a part of our journey in the present. What if we used this time of year to remember our experiences of clarity?

When was a time you realized how close God was? When did you find clarity about a life choice in a relationship or career? When did you have clarity to say yes, or to say no in order to make room for more yeses? When was a time you gained clarity about not being able to have all the answers you wanted and were at peace with moving on without knowing?

In the broader world, when have you had clarity about needing to resist a mindset? What moved you to taking action on a particular injustice? When government corruption has been on the rise, when have you had clarity about keeping hope?

You could focus on one question or several as a spiritual exercise around Transfiguration Sunday. Whatever our degrees of clarity in the present, God is with us. Remember God's promises. Happy Monday!

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Many Blessings upon you,

Pastor Cindy Crane