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“How can you live with the terrifying thought that the hurricane has become human, that fire has become flesh, that life itself came to life and walked in our midst? Christianity either means that, or it means nothing. It is either the most devastating disclosure of the deepest reality of the world, or it is a sham, a nonsense, a bit of deceitful playacting. Most of us, unable to cope with saying either of those things, condemn ourselves to live in the shallow world in between.”

And after six days Jesus led Peter, James and John up on a high mountain...and his face shone like the sun. ~Matthew 17:1-2

~N.T. Wright

- 1) Read Matthew 17:1-13. Is there anything from the sermon or passage that you found confusing, surprising or encouraging?
- 2) Peter confessed with his mouth that Jesus is the Messiah and the Son of the Living God. What was Peter missing, according to the transfiguration? What kind of experience have you had with where your faith became experiential?
- 3) What does it mean for Jesus to be the clearest picture of God's glory? What does it mean for Jesus to be God's most clear communication to you (better than Moses or Elijah or anything that came before)?
- 4) Why do we need the Son of Man to be killed on a cross in order to experience God's glory in Jesus Christ? What is the nature of the glory we are given?
- 5) How should the glory of God given to you in Christ change the way you enter a room? What comparisons do you need to put to death by seeing the Lord of glory?
- 6) Pray for Hope Church and our faithfulness to Christ's mission. Pray for us to believe that we have been given everything we need, as partakers of the divine nature, for life and godliness.

“O God, grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

~Book of Common Prayer (p.832)