

# FAITH CIRCLES *connect*

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT • YEAR B

## EXPERIENCING NEW INSIGHT

### SUNDAY GOSPEL

MARK 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

### SHARING OUR JOURNEY

*In the week before your gathering invite a member of the group to prepare a short, 5-7min, sharing on how this Gospel reading connects with their life and relationship with Jesus. They may like to use the one of the following sharing points:*

1. In this gospel story, the disciples are invited into an exceptionally close and personal encounter with Jesus. They see him in his glory and true identity. Have you ever had a deep personal encounter with God, where you could almost touch his very presence? Share the story of this experience and what affect it had on you?
2. Have you ever seen someone in a completely new, different and positive light? What effect did this have on you and your relationship? In what ways did you feel God's presence more clearly in them or yourself?

*Once the nominated speaker has shared their story, break into smaller sharing groups of 3-5 people. Ask them to reflect upon how this Gospel and sharing has touched their lives.*

### WORSHIP & PRAYER

#### **Sing Together**

*Whilst remaining seated in your smaller groups, play and sing a song of praise and worship as a way of entering into a time of prayer.*

#### **Pray for Each Other**

*Ask about and pray for the needs of group members, inviting the Holy Spirit to be present as you do so. Individuals might like to pray for themselves or ask someone else to pray for them.*

#### **Closing Prayer**

*After people have had time to pray for one another in their smaller groups close the evening with a final prayer in the large group. A suggestion might be:*

Loving Father, we thank you for the love and care you have for each of us. Fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may continue to draw strength from you and follow your will in all we do. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen