

Matthew 16:21 – 17:9

²¹ From then on Jesus began to tell his disciples plainly that it was necessary for him to go to Jerusalem, and that he would suffer many terrible things at the hands of the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but on the third day he would be raised from the dead.

²² But Peter took him aside and began to reprimand him for saying such things. "Heaven forbid, Lord," he said. "This will never happen to you!"

²³ Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Get away from me, Satan! You are a dangerous trap to me. You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God's." ²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. ²⁵ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will find it. ²⁶ And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds. ²⁸ And I tell you the truth, some standing here right now will not die before they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom."

¹⁷ Six days later Jesus took Peter and the two brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain to be alone. ² As the men watched, Jesus' appearance was transformed so that his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light. ³ Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared and began talking with Jesus. ⁴ Peter exclaimed, "Lord, it's wonderful for us to be here! If you want, I'll make three shelters as memorials —one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ But even as he spoke, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy. Listen to him." ⁶ The disciples were terrified and fell face down on the ground. ⁷ Then Jesus came over and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." ⁸ And when they looked up, Moses and Elijah were gone, and they saw only Jesus. ⁹ As they went back down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

1) When we look heavenward, we are _____.

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength."

Romans 8:37 "...We are more than conquerors through Christ who loves us"

2 Timothy 1:7 "For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love and discipline"

2) When we look heavenward, we _____.

Matthew 17:1-3 Six days later Jesus took Peter and the two brothers, James and John, and led them up a high mountain to be alone. ² As the men watched, Jesus' appearance was transformed so that his face

shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light.³ Suddenly, Moses and Elijah appeared and began talking with Jesus.

Luke 9:31 (TLB) They were splendid in appearance, glorious to see; and they were speaking of Jesus' death at Jerusalem, to be carried out in accordance with God's plan.

Hebrews 10:24-25 ²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

3) When we look heavenward, we are _____.

Matthew 17:5a "...and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, who brings me great joy. Listen to him"

4) Looking heavenward _____.

Matthew 16:24-25 ²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. ²⁵ If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will find it.

John 17:24 Father, I long for the time when those You have given Me will be with me where I am, so they may witness My glory, which comes from You.