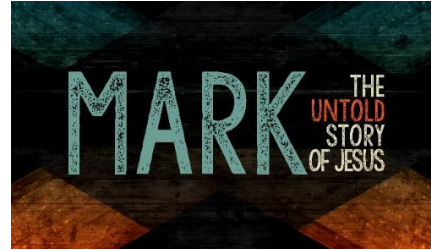


Eastridge Church  
Sermon Study Questions

Series - Mark: The Untold Story of Jesus

Week 25: Hope and Presence pt. 1

Passage: Mark 9:2-8



Conversation Starter:

*Who have you encountered in your life that has a calming presence? Describe them to the group and share what their impact has been on you.*

Pastor Dwain highlighted the significant amount of change that the disciples had experienced in a short period of time as they were following Jesus. They had witnessed the authority of Jesus again and again, but He also kept saying things that confused them. At one point, things had boiled over into a very tense moment between Him and Peter (Mark 8:31-33). The presence of Jesus does not mean that we will not experience uncomfortable change, instead His presence means that we experience it differently. *How do you handle change? How does Jesus' presence allow us to weather change differently?*

Re-read Mark 9:2-4. We see from this passage that Jesus brought Peter, James and John with him to experience something that would change them forever. Any residual sting from Jesus' rebuke of Peter, just the week before, vanished as their senses were completely overloaded by Jesus' transfiguration. *Take some time to reflect on your relationship with Jesus. Has God done something in your life that took you by surprise or you weren't able to explain? In hindsight, what do you believe He was showing you in that moment?*

Pastor Dwain drew special attention to how Mark completes his account in verse 8, "they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only". A primary point of the sermon is the importance of acknowledging Jesus' presence amid our circumstances. *In your own words, why is it important that Jesus alone remained with them? How have you seen or experienced His presence over the past few weeks? How are you supporting the work of God in this season? Take the time to connect with someone this week and tell them what you have seen.*

*Close your time by reading Rev 21:3-4. Pray with these verses in mind, being thankful that God has shown us how everything will turn out.*

**Resources to dig deeper:**

[These Days: The Resilient Way of Jesus](#) podcast by Dwain and Ben Tissell