**Going deeper in Matthew 17:1-13**

**INTRODUCTION**

Peter has just said that Jesus is the Messiah and the Son of the Living God. When Jesus goes on to say that He must go to Jerusalem and suffered many things (the Cross) Peter has said that this will never happen and Jesus has rebuked Peter. The following passage is the heavenly verdict on Jesus’ identity.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

NIV **Matthew 17:1** ¶ Six days later Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain. 2His appearance was transformed before them. Sunlight shone from His face and his clothes became as white as the light. 3 Just then Moses and Elijah were also there in deep conversation with Him. 4 Peter broke in, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. What would you think if I built three memorials here on the mountain -- one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." 5 While he was going on like this, a radiant cloud enveloped them, and a voice from deep within the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. 7 But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." 8 When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. 9 ¶ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead." 10 The disciples asked him, "Why then do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?" 11 Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things. 12 But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands." 13 Then the disciples understood that he was talking to them about John the Baptizer.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. How do you think what happens here is related to the fact that right before this Peter has confessed Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus has declared that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer?

2. Who does Jesus bring along with Him? Why do you think it was these three?

3. How would you describe the transfiguration? Why does this need to happen?

4. Why is it important that Moses and Elijah are there?

5. Who is that we are to listen to? What helps you to listen?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Pray that the Lord Jesus will reveal Himself in His glory to you today.

\*Pray that the Lord Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit will give the ability to listen to Him.

\*Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to follow through on what Jesus says to you.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

The Lord Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of all time. How will you, as the passage says, listen to Him? How will your life point to Him this week?