



Date: April 30th, 2023

Title: Having It All For Nothing

Scripture: Luke 9:28-36

Introduction to Analog

The word, Analog, means “something that is similar or comparable to something else”. Analog is designed to be a tangible way to take another, deeper, look into each week’s Sunday morning message. Individuals, friends, small groups, and families can use Analog for further discussion and exploration of the Sunday teaching. May this tool help you explore the expansive heart of God and practice love in the ways of Jesus.

Teaching Season

There are several stories that cause one to wonder exactly who Jesus is. While we may be quick to offer an answer, Luke does no such thing. Rather he tells several stories of parables, interactions and miracles all leading up to Jesus asking the question himself: “Who do you say I am?” And we are invited to respond.

Teaching

We explored the the mysterious transfiguration where Michael posed the invitation of holding the mystery rather than seeking to solve this unusual encounter. This reveals the apparent divide between the flashy experiences we seek out rather than genuine divine encounters. If we listen to Jesus’ voice, he says to “Pick up your cross,” so what might this look like in our lives today?

Listen to the teaching [online](#) or on the DCC App

Opening Question for the Group: Start your group discussion with the question below.

1) What’s your phone background and what’s the story behind it?

Questions for Discussion or Reflection

Here are some questions for discussion or reflection. Don’t feel like you have to cover them all, and you may have questions of your own to ask. The Spiritual Practice for this week could be very meaningful for you or your group, so plan on 10 minutes or so for

this exercise. If you are using this in a group context, read through these questions and the Spiritual Practice before your group meets to familiarize yourself with this material. You may want to send this out to the group before you meet.

1. Why do you think we often attempt to determine the meaning of a biblical passage?
2. How might the way we read the Bible evolve if we see the reading itself as an encounter with the Divine?
3. Share about a moment in your life that felt like an encounter with something (or Someone) greater than you.
4. How did your encounter change you or your life?
5. Discuss this question: Do you think Divine encounters are still happening?

Spiritual Practice:

This week for our formation practice, we invite you to listen to our guided time of prayer and reflection. You can listen to this guided prayer by clicking on the link below. You can also access the spiritual formation podcast through the DCC App.

[Spiritual Formation Podcast: Breathe Prayer – Embodiment – Make Way For the Image of God](#)