

A WEEKLY WORD

March 2nd, 2025 Transfiguration Sunday

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**READINGS: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2;
Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)**

Have you ever been in a fully bloomed flower garden? We went to the Butchart Gardens on Vancouver Island a couple of years ago. What a gift to the senses. There you can see the Glory of God in full array, smell the fragrance of the plants so strongly that you can taste them, touch the velvety softness of the petals, and hear the trees as they rustle in the breeze, the hum of the bees, and the birds calling to each other. Everyone there were taking their time, slowly walking through the gardens and feeling the calmness that enveloped that place. I felt that I was experiencing a little taste of Paradise, but very tiny compared to the real thing, I'm sure.

In the Gospel reading today, Jesus, Peter, James and John went to the mountain top to pray, when Jesus was transfigured before them. He shone like the brightest lightening and Moses and Elijah appeared in the Glory of God. What a sight to behold. The apostles were speechless! Wouldn't you be? Then in the midst of all that a cloud envelops them and the voice of God speaks to them, saying "This is my beloved Son, my chosen One. Listen to him"

So they see the Glory of God and then they hear God speaking. In the first reading when Moses came down from the mountain after spending time with God, his face shone so bright the Israelites were afraid to look at him and he would cover his face with a veil. Paul in Corinthians speaks about the veil being removed when one turns to the Lord. He also says that the Gospel is veiled to those who don't believe.

If you are reading Scripture and the words are hard to understand, it is often because the clarity isn't there that the Holy Spirit brings. Ask the Holy Spirit to read it with you, then stop and listen to hear what the Word is saying to you. You may find that you hear what is being said more than seeing the print on the page.

The Bible is the story of Jesus from Genesis to Revelation. Look and see, then Listen!
You never know what God has to say to you today.

SEE: And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 Cor 4.3-4

HEAR: A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." Luke 9. 35

TOUCH: Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him.. Luke 5.13

*TASTE: Taste and see that the LORD is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in him. Psalm 34.8*

SMELL Awake, north wind, and come, south wind! Blow on my garden, that its fragrance may spread everywhere. Let my beloved come into his garden and taste its choice fruits. Song of Songs 4.16