

February 21, 2010
Mark 9:2-13

The Good News: A Sermon Series through the Gospel of Mark
**The Good News Up the Mountain
and Down Below**

READ:

Mark 9:2-13

Daryl made the point that in this story it is great that Peter realizes there is something big going on and that he wants to join it. He just doesn't quite choose the right response for joining in.

The Good News . . .
There's something bigger than each of us going on here and we get to join in.

DISCUSS:

Why do you think Jesus took the 3 disciples with him to the mountaintop? Why didn't he want them to tell anyone about what happened?

What is a recent mountaintop experience you've had – when you've caught a glimpse of the glory of Jesus? In what way was this experience like a defibrillator – giving you a short burst of energy to get you to function like you are suppose to?

Where do you see God's hand at work making something big happen? How are you being drawn to look beyond your own self interests to participate in something bigger? What do you learn from Peter's example that is helpful?

PRAY:

1. Pray for the **Jr. High Students** who participated in the **30 Hour Famine** this week. Ask God to continue to work out in them the understanding of having participated in something bigger than themselves. Join them in praying that the money they raised will be effective in saving children from hunger.
2. Pray for the care-givers and patients who will benefit from the **435 World Vision Care Kits** created at FPC this weekend. These kits full of medical supplies will all be sent to Uganda.
3. Thank God for the working out of our 2009 budget. Ask God for continued guidance as we live into our hopes and plans for 2010.
4. Recall what you heard on Sunday in ministry reports and stories shared. Give praise for the ways you saw God at work among us this past year.
5. Pray for the upcoming mission trips.
 - **Gambella** – This is an insight trip. The intent is to listen for ways we can continue to support Anuak orphans and widows; to develop a sister relationship with the new school started by the church we are partnering with there; and to continue to build relationships with leaders in this region. Mary Beth Baker in the veteran guide. She'll be joined by FPC staff John Sowers, Randy Brothers, as well as, school staff Tracy Blue and Dee Lafferty.
 - **Africa** – Randy Brothers moves on from Gambella into other regions of Africa. He'll be joined by Ross Carper to connect with Blood Water (Student Ministries has raised funds for this organization many times in the past.) and to explore new possibilities for FPC mission connections in this country.
 - **Thailand** – This is the first group from FPC to visit the orphanage run by Rev. Sirirat, although we have supported her ministry there for several years. They will see first hand what is being done to rescue children from a devastating life of sex slavery. The group will be taking money to purchase sewing machines, aid in building expansion, etc.
 - **Tijuana** – We are sending 2 groups to build houses in Tijuana this year. A group of adults and college students will leave on March 24th to start the building. They'll be followed the following week by High School students and adults. The result will be new houses for 8 families.