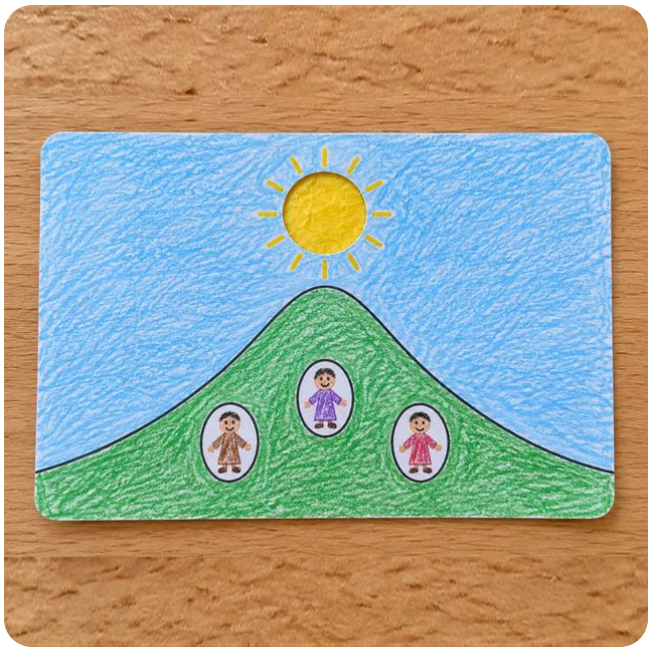
Preschool–Grade 5

Transfiguration Craft

Hear ye him · Matthew 17:1–9 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



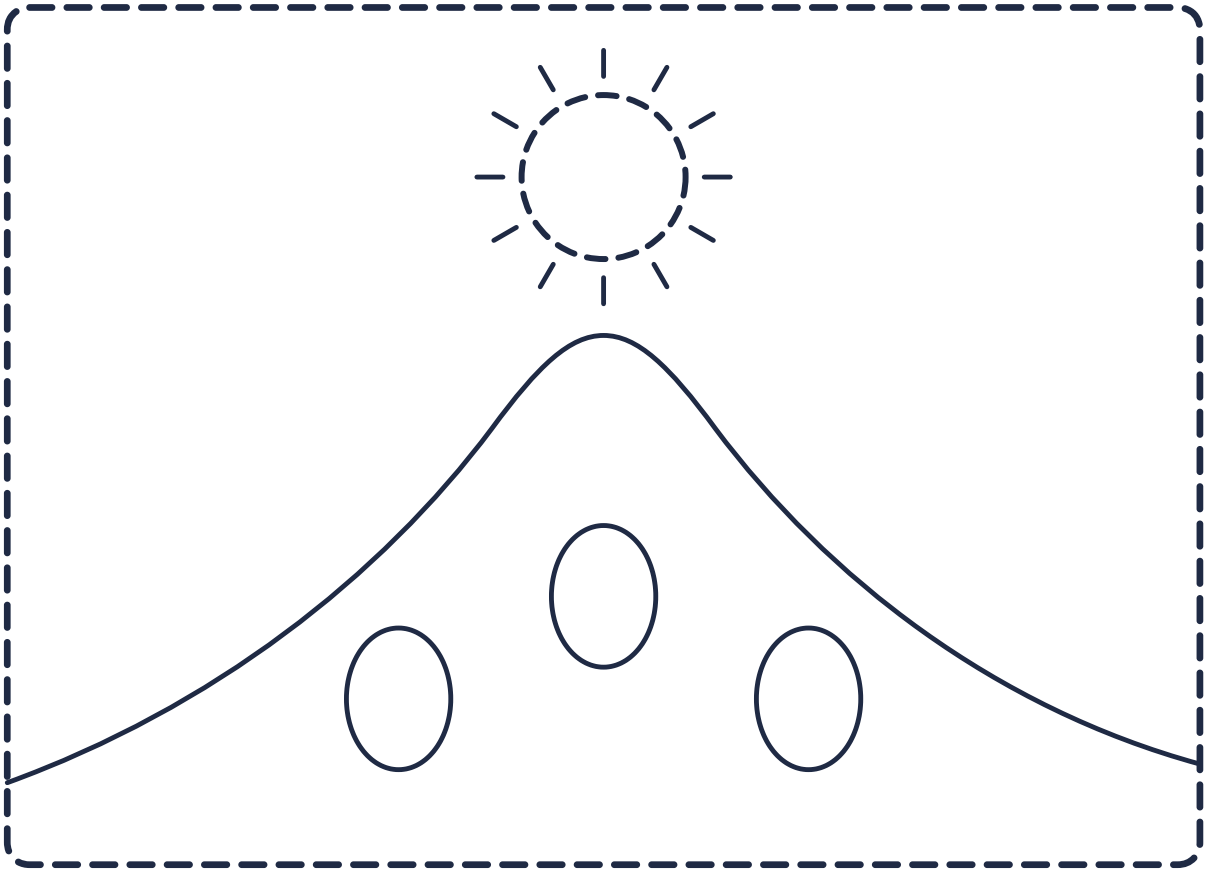
Harder

Both levels are a mountain card: a light blue sky and a high green mountain, with Peter, James and John drawn in the three ovals on the mountain (Matthew 17:1). At the top is a round window covered with yellow tissue paper and ringed with yellow rays, so light shines through it, because "his face did shine as the sun" (17:2). Medium (left): the card. Harder (right): the same card with a paper cloud folded down over the shining window, because "a bright cloud overshadowed them" (17:5); it lifts up again.

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Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: sky light blue, mountain green, rays yellow. Cut out the round window.
Draw Peter, James and John, one in each oval.

While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

Matthew 17:5 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card, below the tissue

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card (and the round window) and the verse strip. You also need a 1½-inch square of yellow tissue paper.

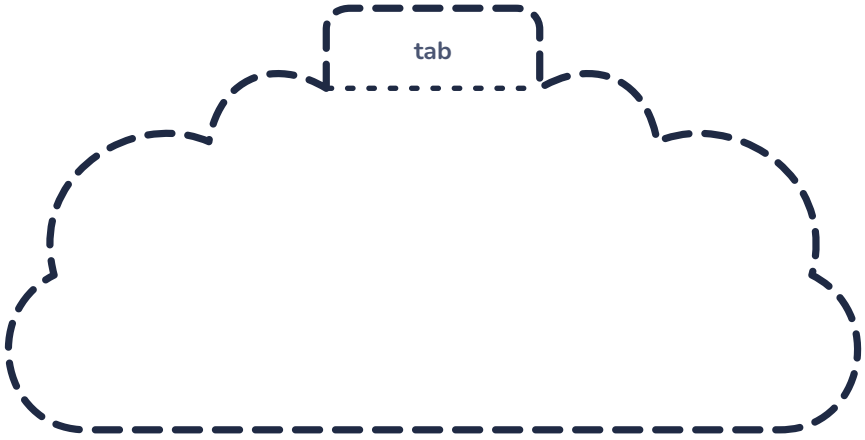
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Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Bright cloud (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines. Fold the tab on the dotted line.



cloud: trace its edge light blue on both sides; leave the middle white

How to add the bright cloud

1. Make the card from page 2 first, with the yellow tissue window and the verse strip on the back.
2. Trace the edge of the cloud light blue on both sides. Leave the middle white. Cut it out on the dashed lines.
3. Fold the tab on the dotted line.
4. Lay the cloud on the front of the card so it covers the round window and the rays, with the tab sticking up past the top edge. Fold the tab over the top edge to the back of the card and glue it down there.
5. Tell it: the cloud is up, and Jesus' face shines as the sun (Matthew 17:2). Fold the cloud down over the light: "a bright cloud overshadowed them" and a voice said, "hear ye him" (17:5). Lift it up again: "they saw no man, save Jesus only" (17:8).

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For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/transfiguration-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), light blue, green and yellow crayons or markers, crayons for drawing the disciples, one 1½-inch square of yellow tissue paper for each child, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child.
Before class: cut the tissue squares. For preschoolers, also cut out the card (and its round window) and the verse strip. For older kids, poke a small starting hole in the middle of each round window with a sharp pencil so they can cut it out.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's card, round window and verse strip. Kids color and draw the disciples, then press the tissue square over the window on the back after you rub on the glue. Glue the verse strip on the back for them.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw and cut out the pieces themselves; a grown-up helps start the round window. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card like the medium level. Then add the bright cloud from page 3 that folds down over the shining window and lifts up again (Matthew 17:5, 17:8). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the sky light blue, the mountain green, and the 12 short rays around the round window yellow. Leave the three ovals white.
2. **Draw:** draw Peter, James and John, one in each oval on the mountain (Matthew 17:1).
3. **Cut:** cut out the card and the verse strip on the dashed lines. Cut out the round window at the top too.
4. **Window:** turn the card over. Rub glue stick around the edge of the round window and press the yellow tissue square over it.
5. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card, below the tissue. Read it together.
6. **Tell it:** hold the card up to a window or a lamp. The light shines through the yellow window: "his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light" (Matthew 17:2).

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Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the three ovals. Who went up the mountain with Jesus? *(Peter, James and John his brother, Matthew 17:1)*
- What kind of mountain was it? *(An high mountain, apart from everyone, 17:1)*
- Hold it up to the light. What happened to Jesus' face and clothes? *(His face did shine as the sun, and His raiment was white as the light, 17:2)*
- Who appeared, talking with Jesus? *(Moses and Elias, 17:3)*
- What did Peter say? *("Lord, it is good for us to be here," 17:4)*
- What came over them, and what did the voice say? *(A bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice out of the cloud said, "hear ye him," 17:5)*
- What did Jesus do when the disciples were afraid? *(He came and touched them and said, "Arise, and be not afraid," 17:7)*
- Who did they see when they looked up? *("Jesus only," 17:8)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: transfigured** means His whole look was changed, so His glory showed; **raiment** means clothes; **Elias** is the New Testament way of writing Elijah; **tabernacles** are tents or shelters; **overshadowed** means covered over them; **hear ye him** means listen to Him.
- **What the Bible says:** Matthew does not name the mountain or say what it looked like. The mountain, the rays and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **No one is drawn on the template, and never Jesus:** each child draws Peter, James and John in the ovals. The yellow window is a reminder that Jesus' face "did shine as the sun" (Matthew 17:2); Jesus Himself is not drawn.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything, including the round window. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue, so the tissue doesn't wrinkle. Let every child hold their card up to the light.
- **At home:** tape the card on a sunny window so the yellow light shines through all week.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Transfiguration lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/transfiguration.

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