

Week 2: Celebrating the Goodness



"There in their presence Jesus was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light."

Matthew 17:2

*Read the full Gospel
Matthew 17:1-9*

On the reality TV show, *The Block*, couples vie to renovate houses, to transform something ordinary or rundown into an extraordinary style and design. While there is a goodness in wanting to renew our own self, will we ever be satisfied?

When God chose to become human, to become one with us, it was not putting on a human cloak over the divine. To be fully human, fully divine, means that Jesus experienced humanity in its fullness, in all things but sin. This makes him a great person to relate to, as he fully empathises when we share our anxieties, struggles, hopes and griefs. However, the transfiguration, and indeed all of God's revelation, continues to call us to appreciate that being human does not mean being unworthy or somehow innately messed up. We don't have to constantly renovate who we are to be loved by God. God, through Jesus, shows us the opposite: we are to experience our own lives as full of the true, the good, and the beautiful.

Jesus desires to make his home in us, to live in us, and through Jesus, we can live extraordinary lives. The scriptures call us to be saints, to be holy ones. Holiness is how we live daily in tune with the music of God, with the rhythm of God's Spirit. We are invited to take to heart the words of the beautiful hymn by Deidre Brown, with God saying to us: *Nothing can change the love that I bear you. All will be well, just come as you are.*

Let us experience the wonder of our own self, worthy of God's love, worthy of self-love, and embrace the wonder of one another, fellow saints called to share the beauty of God's goodness with the world, called to be intentional followers of Jesus Christ: intentional disciples.

For Reflection

Share your response to God's message that we are worthy of God's love, regardless of who we are or what we have done.