

realpeople

the gospel in everyday language



In today's readings:

The call of Abraham. Genesis 12:1-4
Bear the hardships. 2 Timothy 1:8-10
Stand up...do not be afraid. Matthew 17:1-9

Next week:

A woman at the well.
Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2,5-8;
John 4:5-42

In a nutshell

For Jesus, the glorious moment on the mountain top is an intense experience of his Father's love. His appearance is transfigured. The disciples are confused and unnerved by such magnificence. Peter's attempt to make sense of the scene is overshadowed by a greater voice: 'This is my Beloved Son...listen to him.'



Our Day In The Sun

We'd had a great cricket season, coming from the bottom of the ladder to make the finals. That day we had just won the major semi-final by a slender, heart-stopping three runs. It was a brilliant game, at one stage seemingly lost, before a substitute fielder—who had done everything wrong all day—threw down the stumps from the boundary, running them out three short of our brave, if meagre, total.

Afterwards, there were three of us sitting on the pitch eating pizza as that magnificent summer day turned into night. We sat there basking in our grass-stained cricket whites, watching the sun set over our picturesque home ground and revisiting the glory of the game. The pizza was perfect, the company trusted. We were tired, sunburnt and happy.

In the middle of all this (and to my utter amazement) an awareness of God came upon me. It was like we weren't alone...there were more than three of us sitting out there. Perhaps there was Somebody

else reminiscing with us about the day, marvelling at that throw from the boundary, hungry for pizza.... It is hard to describe what I experienced. I am not the kind of guy who dwells much on spiritual things. But whenever I hear that passage about Jesus 'shining' on the mountain top, I am reminded of our 'day in the sun'.

And the grand final? Well, our glory was short-lived. We lost. But it was a great season—all the more memorable because of my 'God-moment' on the cricket pitch. (Joe)

My son!

Friday night at the local pub. The regular band had finished their set and the lead singer was socialising with the hotel patrons. I noticed that on this occasion he seemed remarkably different to other nights. His wife had recently given birth to their first child and he was obviously deeply affected by the whole event. 'Hey, I've got a son! I've got a son!' he kept saying as he moved through the crowd and greeted people. A rough and 'scowling' sort of character, I had never seen him look so tender, so vulnerable, so radiant with the pride of fatherly love. (Greg)

Lenten progress

- How did you progress in your Lenten commitment over the past week?
- What's the next step you will take?
- This week: Spend some extra time in prayer.



A double-dose of affirmation

A young mother with twin newborns says that when she's having a bad day and feels down, she puts her babies in their stroller and goes walking around the neighbourhood. 'People everywhere—in the street, in the supermarket—light up and smile at us as we walk past,' she explains. 'They can't resist the twins. They are just adorable and have this uncanny way of drawing a friendly smile from even the most harried shopper. By the time I get home I have had an hour of people smiling and nodding and congratulating me, I feel just great!'

Think...Talk

Describe a special 'God moment' in your life; a time when God's presence seemed unnervingly close.

- What was the setting?
- Who was there?
- How did you feel?
- How did you respond?

Pray

Lord, open us to receive the glory of your love.



RealPeople offers faith reflections from the saints and prophets of everyday life.

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