

God Crosses Cosmic Time and Space and comes Camping.

Mark 9:2-9

Face to Face Story 9

Words and Plasticene Art

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Peter



James



John



Peter
James
John

They are buddies
James and John are
brother buddies.

They know each other's
favourite food,
annoying habits
short temper,
smart mouth,
shouty voice.

They know they can
rely on each other.



They know each other
from face to feet,
from shoulder to shin
from top to tummy to toenails
from hair to hands
from arms to ankles
nostrils to knuckles
from eyebrows to elbows
and everything in between.



Peter
James
John

They are real buddies
They are buddies
with Jesus too.



They know Jesus' favourite food
– and how he can turn
a small bit of bread
into a feast for a crowd
They know Jesus' temper
– and how he gets angry
when the poor are treated
unfairly.



They know Jesus' kindness
– and how he stops
to make things right
for those
who are suffering.



They know he gets sleepy
after a big day.

They know he loves a party
and doesn't mind
who turns up.

They know he tells
strange and wonderful stories
that change how you see the
world.



They know Jesus from face to feet
from shoulder to shin
from top to tummy to toenails
from hair to hands
from arms to ankles
nostrils to knuckles
from eyebrows to elbows
and everything in between.



Peter
James
John
Jesus

Buddies who go
everywhere together.
Along the beach, across the water,
through the caves on the cliff,
into the village, out into the hills,
over the border, up the mountain.



Up the mountain.

Peter

James

John

and Jesus.



But this one time,
at the top of the mountain,
Peter, James and John
who thought they knew Jesus

from face to feet,
from shoulder to shin
from top to tummy to toenails
from hair to hands
from arms to ankles
nostrils to knuckles
from eyebrows to elbows
and everything in between



Suddenly saw everything
about Jesus
Change.

Jesus became brighter
and brighter
and brighter



and every part of Jesus
from face to feet,
from shoulder to shin
from top to tummy to toenails
from hair to hands
from arms to ankles
nostrils to knuckles
from eyebrows to elbows
and everything in between



became as bright
and shining
and wonderful
and amazing
and beautiful
as anything
Peter, James and John
had ever seen.



And there on either side of Jesus
Were two other buddies
– Moses and Elijah
Heroes from the ancient stories
of God
that
Peter and James and John
had known since they were
little boys.



They blink their eyes
They shuffle their feet
Their mouths fall open
They tremble at the knees
They feel butterflies in their tummies



Peter taps James and John on the shoulder

Wow! Look at Jesus

– shining as bright as,

as bright as,

as bright as

nothing on earth can be – as bright as God!

And Jesus is talking with the ancient heroes
who long ago died and went to be with God!

Has Jesus turned into God? they wondered...



Peter is an ideas man:
“Let’s build tents for everyone
and stay here and be friends
with Jesus and Moses and Elijah
– friends with God.” He says.



But someone has something else to say –

A cloud covers them all,
the way God was with his people
in a cloud in the ancient stories.

And God's voice says
'This is my Son that I love. Listen to
him'.



And then...
all the shining brightness
was gone,
and the heroes from the
ancient stories
had gone.
And there was Jesus.
Plain ordinary Jesus.



and every part of Jesus
from face to feet,
from shoulder to shin
from top to tummy to toenails
from hair to hands
from arms to ankles
nostrils to knuckles
from eyebrows to elbows
and everything in between

was just...normal.

The way it had always been.



No need to set up tents
for camping out here.
Jesus isn't staying.
He's got things to do.

Peter and James and John
follow Jesus
back down the mountain.



Turns out Jesus is God.
He heals and shares wisdom.
He puts things right.
All in his ordinary human body.
He doesn't need to be shining as
bright as, as bright as, as bright as
nothing on earth can be to do it.
And he doesn't need ancient heroes
with him to do it either.



Just ordinary human buddies.
Like Peter
James
and John.

And you.
And me.