



# Jesus is Transfigured

**Matthew 17:1-9**

**Running time:** Approximately 6 minutes

**Set:** The set for Units 1-4 is designed to look like a Medieval Castle. It is the Palace of the King. There is a curtained opening center stage, a ramp stage right and an upper level where characters can enter. There is a window stage left for puppets and a hinged stained glass window stage right that opens to reveal the Bible. For added interest, build windows and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

**Characters:** Theophilus is the Keeper of the King's Gardens. He is a wise, old sage with the wisdom of the ages and great knowledge of God's Word. Squire Goofus, the Gallant, is a young man who wants desperately to be a noble knight in the King's Guard. He is very naïve and a bit clumsy.

**Plot:** Theophilus gets a message that Goofus is going home because he does not feel called by the King. Theophilus tells how Jesus called His disciples. We learn that the Lord calls us all to leave everything to follow and serve Him.

**Costumes:** Robe, tunics, white wig and beard, sandals, boots, chain mail.

**Props:** Sword, stick horse, bags of coins

**Sound effects (SFX):**

1. Intro/Outro music suggestions: familiar castle/battle themes from movies such as The Lord of the Rings, or Monty Python and the Holy Grail, or Productiontrax.com – The Price of Freedom, Iron Lore, Prepare for Battle, Rain of Fire -: 80; (i-movies: Timely, pursuit, heroes, flurry, saber.)
2. Horse galloping
3. Trumpet fanfare
4. Stained Glass Window suggestion: "King of Kings and Lord of Lords" from Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" or other royal song clip. Music plays when this window is opened during each episode to reveal the Bible.

**Visual effects (VFX):**

1. Video Intro featuring knights on horseback is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Hinged, stained glass window holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
3. Scripture Slide: ***"While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Matthew 17:5***
4. Closing Slide: "Serving the King is the noblest thing!"

**Adaptations:**

1. Sound Effects: instead of using recorded effects, have children make the sounds
2. Voiceovers: may be spoken off stage
3. This illustration is also available in storybook form located at ResourceWell.org

**Kingdom Adventures**  
**Unit 1, Lesson 6**  
**Jesus is Transfigured**  
**Matthew 17:1-9**

**Voiceover:** (VFX: Video intro)

In ancient days noble knights roamed the land doing good deeds and acts of service for their king. Many of those brave squires served the greatest Lord of all, the King of Kings! Travel with us now as we ride with these mighty men of God on their quest for Kingdom Adventures!

**Theophilus**

Hello, hello. Welcome back one and all to the Garden of the King. It's so good to see you. It is I, your good friend Theophilus. I love to walk these gardens and see the way the flowers grow and change. And speaking of growing and changing, I am expecting our growing boy, Squire Gus. (SFX: Fanfare and horse galloping) Ah, here he is now.

**Gus**

Yip, yip, yip, yip, YEE-HAW! Make way, clear a path! Hail, Theophilus!

**Theophilus**

Hail, Squire Gus! I hear you are doing well in your training. Rumor has it you defended the Kingdom last week against Robespierre.

**Gus**

Thank you, kind Theophilus. I live to serve the king! (Drops sword)

**Rufus** (offstage)

Bark, bark, bark!

**Gus**

Aha, I know that sound. It is Rufus, the Royal Dragon!

**Rufus**

Bark, Bark, Bark!

**Theophilus**

Doggy, doggy! He meant doggy!

**Gus**

Sorry Rufus. Have you a message for us?

**Rufus**

Bark, bark!

**Gus**

Sounds like?

**Theophilus**

Very good, Gus! Sounds like what? (Rufus tosses bag of coins)

**Gus**

A bag of coins! Nickels? Quarters? Pennies from Heaven!

**Theophilus**

Change?

**Rufus**

Bark, bark, bark!

**Theophilus**

It is change! Of course, Rufus! God's kingdom is all about change! Thank you for reminding us.

**Rufus**

Bark, bark, bark! (He exits)

**Theophilus**

God bless you too, Rufus!

**Gus**

What kind of message is that? God's kingdom is about change! I thought it was about being the best.

**Theophilus**

Oh Gus, God does want us to give him our best. But, he also plans that as we spend more time with King Jesus we will change and become more like Him.

**Gus**

So...God wants me to change?

**Theophilus**

Most things do change. Even Jesus changed. Well, His appearance did, that is. He was transfigured!

**Gus**

What does that mean?

**Theophilus**

Transfigured? It means to change or be transformed. It's a little complicated. I'll get the manual out and explain it right now! (Reveal Bible in castle window) (SFX: "King of Kings and Lord of Lords") Ah, what a sweet sound. Now, in this report Jesus went up a mountain with his friends Peter and James and John when suddenly His face and clothes began to change.

**Gus**

Changed into what?

**Theophilus**

His face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as light. Just then Moses and Elijah appeared, talking with Jesus.

**Gus**

But those guys lived hundreds of years before then. Peter must have been freaked out!

**Theophilus**

Look what happened next! *While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him!"* (SFX: Scripture slide)

**Gus**

That's the same thing God said when Jesus was baptized!

**Theophilus**

Yes! You have a good memory Squire Gus! But this time God said more than "This is my Son, whom I love." What else did God say?

**Gus**

God said, "Listen to Him!" God was telling us to obey Jesus. Theophilus, why do you think God made all this happen?

**Theophilus**

Perhaps it was God's way of showing His followers that Jesus is both God and Man.

**Gus**

That's kind of a hard thing to understand.

**Theophilus**

But God loved them enough to show them that He was God who came to earth as a man!

**Gus** (laying down)

If I were there I would have fallen on my face before the Lord!

**Theophilus**

Do you know that is the very thing the disciples did? But Jesus touched them and said, "Get up, don't be afraid."

**Gus**

What happened next?

**Theophilus**

When they got up they saw only Jesus.

**Gus**

Wow, that is amazing! They were in the presence of the all-powerful God, but He loved them so much that He comforted them.

**Theophilus**

That is how much King Jesus loves us. And it is His love that makes us want to change.

**Gus**

I want to change! I want to be transformed! What must I do?

**Theophilus**

What did God say?

**Gus**

**He said...listen?**

**Theophilus**

**Exactly! And how can we listen to Jesus?**

**Gus**

**Well...one way is by reading and obeying the things I learn in God's Word.**

**Theophilus**

**Oh Gus, I think you are growing more like Jesus everyday!**

**Gus**

**Did you hear that kids? I'm becoming more like Jesus and I believe you are too!**

**Theophilus**

**Indeed we all are. Come back next time to learn how you can become more like the King. Until then say it with us...**

**Both**

**Serving the King is the noblest thing! (VFX:  
Serving the King is the noblest thing!) (SFX:  
Outro music)**

**Gus**

**Goodbye friends!**

**Theophilus**

**Jesus loves you! (exit)**