

1. Jesus gave his apostles “power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases.” How would this power help them in their mission “to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal”? (Luke 9:1-2)
2. Apart from the Resurrection, the multiplication of the loaves is the only miracle recounted in all four Gospels. (Luke 9:10-17; Matt 14:13-21; Mk 6:30-44; John 6:1-15)
 - a. Why do you think all four evangelists told the story?
 - b. What do you think the miracle foreshadows, and why is it important for us today? (Luke 22:14-21)
3. The word “Christ” means “anointed one.” What does it indicate when Peter called Jesus “The Christ of God”? (Luke 9:18-20)
4. What did Jesus mean when he said, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me”? (Luke 9:23-26)

Note: *The Transfiguration has three levels of significance. (1) Christ reveals his glory to offset the shock of his first Passion prediction (Luke 9:22). (2) The Father’s voice, the chosen Son, and the cloud of the Spirit manifest the presence of the Blessed Trinity. (3) The prophets Moses and Elijah testify that Jesus will fulfill the Law and the prophets of the Old Testament.*

5. Why do you think Jesus chose Peter, James, and John to witness the Transfiguration? (Luke 9:28-36)
6. When the disciples of Jesus were arguing among themselves about who was more important, how did Jesus settle the argument, and what can we learn from this? (Luke 9:47-48)

Note: *Samaria lies in central Palestine, between Judea and Galilee. (See map) Although the Samaritans were distant descendants of the northern tribes of Israel, the Jews considered them enemies and impure because their ancestors had intermarried with pagan immigrants and honored pagan gods.*

7. When Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem, he had to pass through Samaria. Why did his disciples, James and John, want to call down fires from heaven to consume or destroy the Samaritans? (Luke 9:52-55)
8. How did Jesus respond to the anger of James and John, and what can we learn from Jesus about dealing with people and unpleasant situations, such as rejection? (Luke 9:55-56)
9. Three different people came up to Jesus and volunteered to follow him, but he found each of them lacking some necessary quality for being a disciple. Describe the reasons that kept each person from following Jesus immediately. (Luke 9:57-62)
10. *Reflection:* What are some reasons that might prevent you from following Jesus more fully?

If you would like a challenge?

11. Jesus said, “Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.” (Matt 12:30) Yet, here in Luke, when John spoke up saying: “Master, we saw a man driving out demons in your name, and we told him to stop, because he doesn’t belong to our group.” Jesus replied: “Do not try to stop him, because *whoever is not against you is for you.*” (Luke 9:49-50) How do you explain the apparent contradiction between Jesus’ two statements?