



Share  
Lent 2020



Development  
and Peace  
CARITAS CANADA

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

Matthew 17:1-9

**“This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”**

Peter wanted to build tents to keep the three holy figures of Moses, Elijah and Jesus with him on the mountain because they represented customs and teachings that were familiar to him. We, too, sometimes hold on only to the comfortably familiar aspects of our faith, like attending Mass and praying, without going deeper. But Jesus challenges us to go “down the mountain,” to go forth from Mass and personal prayer, to spread His love, to live out the teachings of the Gospel and to help build His Kingdom.

The voice from the cloud asked us to listen to His beloved Son. The call of Jesus is not for the faint of heart. It is a call to love our neighbours (all of them); to spend time with the outcast, the sick and the imprisoned; and to be radically inclusive (especially of those who are usually excluded).

Whom can we include who is usually left aside? Whose voices and concerns do we usually tune out? To whom can we show the love of God this week?

Sometimes, we don't do these things out of shyness or fear of what others might think. Sometimes, we are simply too lazy or stuck in our routines to even notice. Lent is a time for overcoming our bad habits and refocusing on Jesus's directives for life and His voice calling us to something greater. It may seem scary, difficult or uncomfortable. But Jesus tells us to not be afraid and assures us that He is with us. He will help us through it.

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### Discussion questions:

- **What keeps us from including those who are often left out?**
- **To whom can we reach out this week at school or work, and as a family?**

This year, the Church turned her attention to the Indigenous and traditional peoples of the Amazon. At the Pan-Amazonian Synod, leaders from around the world reflected on how to be the Church of the people who have lived in and nurtured the Amazon for centuries but are now struggling to protect their lands, livelihoods and very lives. In the spirit of the synod, we are invited to learn about what is going on in the Amazon and to look at how we can be the Church to our Amazonian sisters and brothers and to our Mother Earth.

Visit [devp.org/campaign/yesica](https://devp.org/campaign/yesica) to learn why Yesica Patiachi Tayori, a Peruvian Harakbut community leader, is seeking our help to preserve the Amazon, our common home.