



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 4: Glory

Suggested Week of Use: March 22, 2026

Core Passage: Matthew 17:1-13

News Story Summary

Team USA showed resilience, unity, excellence, passion, integrity, and strength during the recent Winter Olympic Games in Italy. There were 232 members who competed in 116 events across all sixteen disciplines. Eighty-five athletes contributed to the nation's thirty-three total medals (twelve gold, twelve silver, and nine bronze). The United States surpassed its records for both total medals (twenty-eight in 2014) and gold medals (ten in 2022). Fifty-eight members of Team USA stood on the Olympic podium for the first time, including eight who won multiple medals.

Interestingly, none of the gold Olympic medals awarded were pure gold. The gold medals were made with five hundred grams of 99.9% silver and six grams of 99.9% gold. The last solid gold medal was awarded in the 1912 Olympics in Stockholm, Sweden.

For more about this story, search “2026 Winter Olympics.”

Engage

To supplement the Engage activities, encourage adults to share any sports they watched during the recent Winter Olympic Games. Talk about why particular events interest them. Summarize the news story above. Ask: *How do Olympic athletes prepare? What do you think motivates their commitment?* Note that for many the idea of “Olympic glory” as they represent their country drives them to excel. Encourage the group to compare Olympic glory with God's glory. Affirm that there really is no comparison. Ask: *Where do we see God's glory each day? How do you know it when you see it?* Discuss responses. Share that today's session focuses on an event where Jesus revealed His glory to three of His followers. Challenge adults to identify ways they can be more sensitive to His glory as they examine this passage.

Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activities, review the statistics about the 2026 Winter Olympic Games in Italy. Say: *Few people ever stand on an Olympic podium or hear their national anthem played in their honor. We won't experience that kind of glory, but we can remember that we serve a Savior whose glory makes Olympic medals seem like pieces of cheap glass.*

Remind adults that Jesus's glory emanated from inside Himself. Note that He was letting Peter, James, and John get a taste of heaven on earth.

Ask: How is our transformation as believers similar or different to what Jesus demonstrated? How does spending time in His presence affect our spiritual transformation? Challenge adults to spend time with the Lord this week, both listening and obeying Him so they can reflect His glory. Close the session in prayer, asking God to shine through each person.