

The CHOSEN Dive In

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to listen, discuss & reflect

Season 2 Episode 1



EPISODE 1 SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

- ▶▶Luke15:1-7 ▶▶Luke 9:52-56
- ▶►Luke 10:25-37
- ►►Mark 3:17
- ▶John 1:1-18
- ▶ John 4:28-30,39-42

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- ▶▶John14:12
- ▶John 21:24-25, 8:1-3

►John 1 – the intro to John's gospel...

CHARACTERS

Jesus, James & john, Andrew & Peter, Thomas, Ramah, Ramah's father, Matthew, Samaritans in Sychar, Samaritan cripple & his family

Video length 1:04:48

Quick Summary

Picking up where the first season left off, the disciple's numbers are growing. And they've still got a LOT of learning to do. This episode focuses on many different characters, but John is the main disciple focus. As the news of Jesus continues to spread, the disciples start to make plans.

Context – Most of the episode takes place in and around Sychar in Samaria. Jews and Samaritans have a history of hostility towards each other.

The Bigger Questions:

What is your one BIG question from this episode?

What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?

HELPFUL LINKS

Watch The Chosen Episodes:

Episode 1 Link: <u>https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E1</u> Via The Chosen App, down load here: <u>https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen</u>



QUESTIONS FOR YOU & GROUP

- Which character stood out to you the most? Which were most interesting? Most moving?
- The episode opens with John interviewing the disciples about their memories of Jesus. How would you share about how you met Jesus? Who do you enjoy talking with about Jesus? Why?
- The disciples were gathered to mourn the loss of John's brother James. He had been martyred (*Acts 12:1-2*). Why is it good to simply reflect on Jesus during hard times?
- There was tension between Ramha's father, Thomas and Jesus. Why? How hard is it to trust Jesus over family?
- Jesus heals the Samaritan cripple without being present. While he stayed there, the cripple told his story. How did Jesus treatment of him impact you?
- Have you ever thought of the story of the good Samaritan from the perspective of the robber? Why is that important for what Jesus is trying to teach the disciples?
- When Jesus stayed overnight in the Samaritan priest's house, He was asked why he didn't correct the priest when he said one room was haunted. "I don't address everything at once," He replied.

How grateful are you that God is patient with our ignorance?

- We see James and John and their intensity. Jesus rebukes them creatively. He said, "You're not more worthy than they!" Why is that a message we need to hear?
- "Is that a good thing?' 'Today it wasn't" When Jesus calls John, Thunder, he says that fiery passion can be both a gift and hindrance. Share about a personality trait that is an asset that sometimes gets you into trouble.

Quotable Quotes

Ramah's father: "I cannot give you my belief or my devotion but my honesty and my daughter are all I have left to give. "

Jesus to James and John: "Strong passion can be good when channeled for righteousness."





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SEASON 2 EPISODE 1 – THUNDER

The WORD Jewish - Hebrew – *Action/Breath of God* Roman - Greek – *Reason of God* This episode explores the power of the Word, the power of Jesus' Word, and what it means that he is the Word. Hebrews 4:12 says "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Though we didn't know Jesus personally we have the Bible and his Word. All of the questions asked above we can answer because we have his Word. His Word also tells us about ourselves and penetrates our souls. God has his ways, his love, and his words. Man has his ideas, his prejudices and his plans. The ways of God and the ways of men are contrasted in this episode. Seek and you will find. Seek his ways not man's ways.

Some of these deeper questions may seem to repeat other discussion questions, but they are worth repeating to allow deeper thoughts, discussions and / or journaling.

I. Flashforward to the Beginning

1. What aspects of the gospels and history of the disciples do you see in the introduction?

II. Planting

2. Why are James and John happy to be working the soil? Pay attention to how they feel and why. This will be made more clear throughout the rest of the episode.

III. Searching for Jesus

3. The disciples consistently seemed to "lose Jesus." How do we seek to control Jesus?

How do we try to make Him fit our agenda?

IV. Searching for the lost

4. What parable does Jesus tell in Sychar? How does this parable play an essential part to the themes of this episode?

V. Man's Plans vs God's Plans

5. Throughout the episode, take note of all the planning that the disciples make. How do their plans match with what Jesus does? What does this show and teach us?

VI. The Cost of Following

- 6. Why did Kafni, Ramah's father, struggle with Jesus and allowing Ramah to follow him?
- 7. Even though this scene isn't found in scripture how can we say that it is very scriptural? Take note of all the reactions, including those of Jesus.

$\ensuremath{\mathsf{VII}}$. Not the disciples plans but the plans of Jesus

- 8. Who is Jesus seeking here? What is he teaching the disciples?
- 9. Why does Simon chime in when Melech questions if Jesus would help him?

VIII. Slow to learn

- 10. How do things change in the room as soon as Jesus leaves?
- 11. What do James and John show here? What has Jesus been trying to teach them?
- 12. What was unique about how the people in Sychar were coming to believe in Jesus?

IX. In the Synagogue

13. What important points are discussed by Jesus and John? What has John learned?

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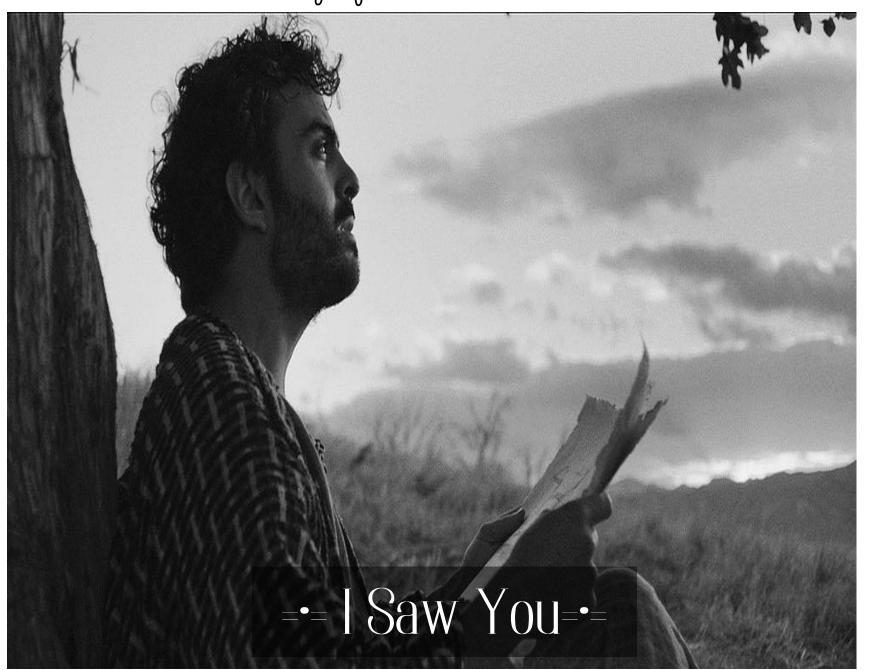


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Season 2 Episode 2



EPISODE 2 SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

►Deuteronomy 6:4-5 ▶ Psalm 27:7-95 ► Ezekiel 39:6-10

▶John 1:43-51 ►►Matthew 10

CHARACTERS

Jesus, Thaddeus, Phillip, Nathanael, Andrew & Peter, Thomas, Ramah, Mary Magdalene, Matthew

Video length 52:38



Quick Summary The disciples are waiting for Jesus to come back to head to Syria. Phillip leaves John the Baptist to come and follow Jesus. Phillip brings Nathanael to the disciples and he is called by Jesus. The portrayal of Nathanael's story is really inspiring, especially after going back and reading the Scripture that inspired it. It is also really good to be reminded of the real humanity of the disciples and be reminded that they struggled to agree. The episode is a beautiful reminder for me that we build things differently with Jesus... and we can start now.

The Bigger Questions:

What is your one BIG question from this episode?

What captured your imagination most, and what would share first with someone about this episode and how God spoke to you through it?

HELPFUL LINKS

Watch The Chosen Episodes:



Episode 2 Link: <u>https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E2</u> Via The Chosen App, down load here: <u>https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen</u>

QUESTIONS FOR YOU & GROUP

- The episode begins and ends with Nathanael. He thought his life was lost, only to discover something beautiful after meeting Jesus. He told the bartender that he had died of "hubris." What did he mean and why is that significant to the story?
- Phillip played several roles in the episode, including being a key role in bringing Nathanael to Jesus. Nathanael said, "I've never seen you talk like this." What will it take for you to talk so compellingly about Jesus to someone?
- What can you conclude by Jesus' being aware of Nathanael's lowest moment?
- Peter advocated for more structure. What was he really wanting?
- Jesus said, "Each brings something unique to the whole. I want every voice heard. We can all learn something from each other. "It seems to echo Paul's teaching about spiritual gifts. Why do we need each other?
- What joke did Phillip tell Matthew to help him loosen up? What did you think about the way he related with Matthew?
- How did you feel about Phillip's conversation with Matthew- especially when Matthew draws the circle in the dirt? Can you identify with Matthew comment?
- We see another instance of the life of Jesus being written down in Matthew's journal. Why is that meaningful?
- Why do the disciples disagree about writing down Jesus' words? How do we still see that playing out now?
- If you feel comfortable sharing- what was a time that you felt seen by God like Nathanael did under the fig tree.
- What other observations did you have?

"I was something else once, too. Once you've met the Messiah, am is all that matters."

Quotable Quotes

"I don't know what he sees in me." – Mathew

"I was something else once too. They want to define us by our past, our sins." - Phillip





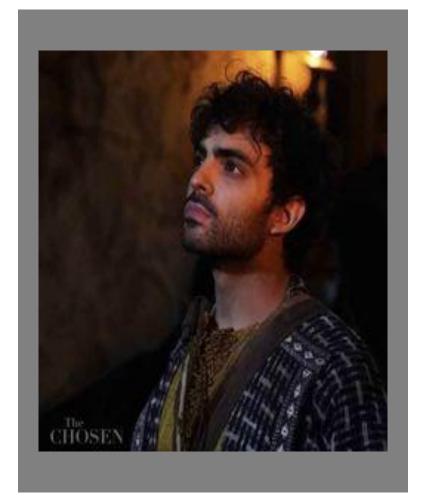
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SEASON 2 EPISODE 2 – I SAW YOU

They say, "Seeing is believing." But what holds us back from believing? And what are we focused on. This episode focuses on the phrase, "Come and See." many people are forced to challenge their expectations. We have thoughts, plans and desires. We see one thing, mainly what we want to happen, which so often includes being front and center. We want things to be about us and how we have succeeded. We want to be accepted by God because of our achievements.

But we have a lot to learn. This episode also focuses on how we learn from Jesus and from others. Some don't think they have much to learn. Others are discouraged from learning. But we all know we have a great deal to learn from God. But he also gives us others to learn from. In the end, we have a lot to learn, but we have to come and see in order to really learn from God and not focus on ourselves.

Some of these deeper questions may seem to repeat other discussion questions, but they are worth repeating to allow deeper thoughts, discussions and / or journaling.

I. Meeting Nathanael

How do you relate to this new character

II. A New Arrival

1. How are the disciples divided and at conflict with each other? What unites them?

III. A Lost Life 2. Who is Nathanael talking about? What does he mean by all this?

IV. Matthew and Philip

3. How and why do Matthew and Philip connect? 4. What does Philip stress to Matthew?

V. A Fig Tree

5. What is Nathanael struggling with? Why? What does he want?

VI. Learning 6. What is Matthew learning?

VII. A New Disciple

7. What does Jesus say about the type of follower Philip will be? Why? 8. How does Jesus talk about the future?

VIII. More Learning

9. What is being learned about what to expect and how to be prepared?

IX. Written Words

10. What are the pros and cons of having Jesus' words written down? 11. What does Jesus stress with Simon?

X. Come and See

12. What are Nathanael's expectations?

13. How were Nathanael's needs met?



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Season 2 Episode 3



EPISODE 3 SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

- ►Zechariah 4
- ►►Matthew 4:23-25
- ►Zechariah 14:1-5
- ▶ Psalm 139:8

CHARACTERS

Jesus, Mother Mary, Mary Magdalene, Ramah, and the disciples thus far: Simon, Andrew, Matthew, Big James, John, Thomas, Philip, Thaddeus, Little James (& Nathaneal)

Video length 36:57

Quick Summary

This Episode opens on a long line of people waiting on Jesus to heal them. A long, exhausting day turns into night as the disciples help Jesus deal with the large crowd. Around the campfire, over dinner, the group tried to get to know each other better, a lot of good conversation amongst the disciples. But tensions erupt. A good example of what

their struggles might have looked like.

The Bigger Questions:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? What captured your imagination most, and what would you share with someone about this episode?

HELPFUL LINKS

Watch The Chosen Episodes:



Episode 3 Link: <u>https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E3</u> Via The Chosen App, down load here: <u>https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen</u>

QUESTIONS FOR YOU & GROUP

- Which character stood out to you the most? Which were most interesting? Most moving?
- How does Jesus disrupt cultural dynamics? Personal dynamics?
- If you've been following Jesus long- does it make you happier, fulfilled, or joyful than you were before? If you can't remember a time that you didn't follow Jesus- why do you still?
- What did you learn about the disciples, and what do you think the producers were trying to communicate?
- Did this picture of daily life as a disciple of Jesus fit your expectations?
- In what ways could you relate to the disciples as they were depicted in this episode?
- In what ways were the disciples very different from us, in terms of their culture and what they knew about God's plans?
- Did this episode help you connect with the disciples?
- Little James said, "*He's healing the Samaritans. How many would believe in Him if he wasn't healing them?*' How has your belief been impacted when Jesus hasn't done what you wanted? How do we know that we're following Jesus for who He is and not for what He can do for us?
- How do you feel about Simon's treatment of Matthew? How powerful is it that Simon says he can't forgive him for what he's done, when you know Simon will need great forgiveness from Jesus for a later betrayal?
- Read Matthew 7:1-5. How does this apply to Peter? How does it apply to us?
- Jesus returned to camp exhausted from ministry. His condition stunned the disciples into silence. Why?
- Mary washed Jesus' feet. Where does scripture record Jesus washing someone's feet and when?

Quotable Quotes

"I don't think He's waiting for us to be holy. I think He's here because we can't be holy without Him." -Mary





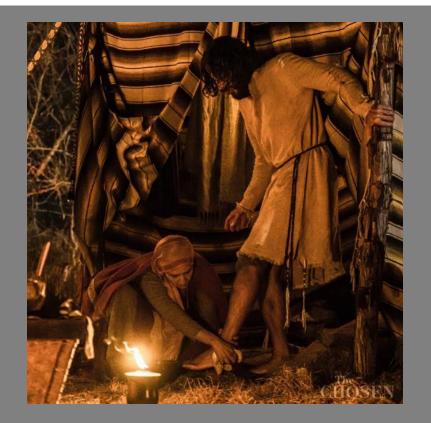


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SEASON 2 EPISODE 3 – Matthew 4:24

This episode is quite different than most of the others. Its powerful and at some points even uncomfortable. It focuses on what a day in the life of the disciples would be like and what they would discuss and struggle with as they came to know Jesus and each other. It captures an evening of ordinary conversation around a campfire. Imagine being a disciple of Jesus on a day when he healed dozens of people. Picture what it would have been like. What do you think the disciples would have been up to while Jesus was busy healing?

As the disciples traveled and lived together, what topics do you think they would have talked about?

Some of these deeper questions may seem to repeat other discussion questions, but they are worth repeating to allow deeper thoughts, discussions and / or journaling.

I. Learning Scripture

- 1. What is Philip teaching Matthew with Psalm? What other tips does he give him?
- 2. Philip tells Matthew, "It's almost sounds like you don't want it to be true." Do we act this way sometimes? Do you know others who do? Why do we do this?

II. Fame and Following the Messiah

- 3. What is discussed during this conversation about fame?
- 4. What do the disciples think they know about the Messiah's coming? What are they questioning?
- 5. What is discussed about being holy?
- 6. What is James struggling with?

III. Around The Fire

7. What points are discussed in the conversation about money?

8. What is Andrew worried about?

IV. Raising Jesus

9. What does Mary (Mother) share about Jesus, her history and relationship with him?

V. Sharing around the fire

- 10. What do the disciples share and learn about each other?
- 11. What is discussed about the law and being Jewish?
- 12. Are the disciples being unfair to Matthew? What is true about what they say? What goes to far?

VI. Conflict

13. What types of conflict do we see in this episode? How does that mirror real life?

14. What were some of the Person vs. Person conflicts among the disciples? Which of the disciples were fighting each other? What was the issue they had?

15. What were some of the Person vs. Self conflicts that individual disciples seemed to be struggling with?

16. What were some of the Person vs. Society conflicts that some of the disciples seemed to be struggling with? 17. Which of these conflicts in this episode of The Chosen did you relate to the most? Why?

VII. Losing Focus

17. Jesus shows up at the end of the episode, just as some of the Person vs. Person conflicts between the disciples are heating up. What effect did his appearance have? Why? & What do the disciples realize?



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Season 2 Episode 4

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The Story of Jesus For Us - The Perfect Opportunity--

EPISODE 4 SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

- ►Exodus 20:8-11
- ▶John 5:1-30
- ▶Psalm 69:9
- ►Zephaniah 3:17-20
- ►Zechariah 8:20-23
- ►Zechariah 14:16

CHARACTERS

Jesus, the apostles (so far), Simon the Zealot, Jesse (the invalid), Shmuel (Pharisee), Atticus (Roman Inspector), Rufus (Roman procurator) & Zealots

Video length 58:44

Quick Summary

This episode is rich in providing context and understanding of the Jews' religious culture and history, helping us have perspective on the world Jesus ministered in. Some of the subjects covered are deep : Teachings about the Sabbath, The Festival of Booths, The Rise and Concerns of the Pharisees, The Zealots and their goals.

In this episode we're introduced to Simon the Zealot and the Feast of the Tabernacles. The disciples travel to outside of Jerusalem for the feast. Along the way, they face some unexpected opposition- the anger and tension against Jesus is building. We also get to

witness another of Jesus' miracles.

The Bigger Questions:

What is your one BIG question from this episode?

What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?

HELPFUL LINKS

Watch The Chosen Episodes:





Episode 4 Link: <u>https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E4</u> Via The Chosen App, down load here: <u>https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen</u>

QUESTIONS FOR YOU & GROUP

- Simon the Zealot and Jesse (invalid by the Pool of Bethesda) are creatively connected as brothers by the series. How did the back story give you insight into the misery of Jesse whom John 5:5 tells us had been disabled for 38 years? How might his presence at the Pool of Bethesda indicate his desire to be healed?
- What was the stated goal of the Zealots? Why were they able to justify murder? How can someone be so passionate for God and be so wrong as to how to please Him?
- How could the Pharisees, Zealots & others interpret the same scripture passages so differently? What do you rely on to help you interpret the scriptures?
- As you witnessed the disciples' preparation for the Festival of Booths, what thoughts did you
 have about the significance of religious tradition/heritage? About how Jews experienced God in
 community?
- The disciples talk about the feast and sleeping outside to be a great leveler of man. The poor, the rich everyone face the same difficulties. What did Mother Mary say it was to remind them of and why is it necessary to have that reminder?
- Jesus knew who He was looking for at the pool. He went seeking Jesse. Who is the Jesse in your life? Why? (Answer from his brother's perspective and from Jesus' perspective.)
- Who is the Simon in your life? (Answer from his brother's perspective and from Jesus' perspective.)
- Jesus told Jesse the pool had nothing to offer him. What do you find yourself turning to time and again that cannot satisfy provide/help you? In what ways do you turn to a "pool" instead of Jesus?
- As Jesse carried out his mat, he was confronted by Yanni (Pharisee) who accused him of working on the Sabbath. How did this example of legalism gone rogue impact you? How/when
- might you be guilty of a similar mindset?
- The religious elite and the religious extreme were both missing out on the miracles of Jesus. Jesse's hope was misplaced but why do you think he still experienced the miracle and what was the significance of that?

Quotable Quotes

"Sometimes you gotta stir up the water" – Jesus

"You're not coming back here. That life is over. Everything changes now." – Peter



"I know a thing or two about prophecies that sound impossible." — Mother Mary



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SEASON 2 EPISODE 4 – THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY

Interesting Tidbit:

Mark 15:7 hints that Barabbas may have been a Zealot.

Bethesda means "House of Mercy"

We want to have hope, to hold on to hope in difficult times, yet it can be excruciating during difficult times or extended hard times. This episode explores the idea of hope, where people will turn for hope, and what happens when it seems there is no hope.

Where do people turn to for hope in this world? What happens when that hope runs dry? Where can we always turn to for hope, a different hope, and why?

Context: Remember that, during the time of the New Testament, the land of Israel was occupied by the Roman Empire, which had conquered it several decades earlier.

As The Chosen has showed us at various points, the Romans were hated by most of the Jews, who viewed them as oppressive enemies.

The Zealots were a group of Jews who believed that God had called them to overthrow the Roman Empire through physical force. Some of these Zealots, known as Sicarii, would carry out terrorist attacks and assassinations of Romans and Jews who cooperated with the Roman Empire.

Some of these deeper questions may seem to repeat other discussion questions, but they are worth repeating to allow deeper thoughts, discussions and / or journaling.

I. A Tale of Two Brothers

1. What had each of the brothers, Jesse (paralyzed) and Simon, went to for hope? How do their lives now differ?

II. Preparing

- 2. What are the Zealots hoping to accomplish by assassinating the Roman official?
- 3. What is discussed about the Feast of Tabernacles?
- 4. What is Shmuel (the Pharisee) hoping to accomplish? What is his message about?
- 5. Why do people wait by the pool? Why is Jesse still there?

III. The Feast

- 6. The disciples know what the scriptures say about the Feast in the future. What do they struggle with or not understand? How does Jesus answer them?
- 7. What are the disciples concerned about with Shmuel? How does Jesus respond?

IV. In Jerusalem

- 8. When hearing the scriptures read what does Simon remember?
- 9. What history of the pool is discussed on the road?
- 10. What does Jesus react to on the road? Why?
- 11. What do you learn about the Romans and the Zealots from the conversation between Atticus and Petronius?

V. A Reunion

12. What disagreements about their belief in God do Simon and Jesse discuss? Why did Simon say he left? What does Simon say about Jesse's current situation?

VI. No Longer a Bad Day

- 13. What was Jesse so focused on to begin with? What does Jesus want him to focus on? Later, what are the Pharisees focused on? Why?
- 14. Why did Jesus perform the miracle when he did??



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Season 2 Episode 5

St Leo's

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EPISODE 5 SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES ►►Matthew 1, 3:1-17 ►Psalm 139 8:14-17 ►►Mark 3:17 10:1-8, ▶►Luke 3:1-20, 11:1-19 4:31-37, 13:34-35 6:17,11-16 14:1-13

CHARACTERS

Jesus, Simon the Zealot, Jesse (the invalid) Shmuel (Pharisee), Atticus (Roman inspector), Mary Magdalene, Ramah, Caleb (demon-possessed)

Video length 47:47

PARENTAL WARNING This episode deals with demonic possession, physical altercations and may be a bit frightening for the younger viewers**

Quick Summary

In this episode we see demon possession in a scarier way than we have seen it on the show in the past. There's a physical fighting scene that results. Jesus and John the Baptist reunite for a moment. The disciples see demon possession up close. Simon the Zealot catches up with the disciples and there might be consequences to that.

The Bigger Questions:

What is your one BIG question From this episode? What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?

HELPFUL LINKS

Watch The Chosen Episodes:

One scene brought major controversy within the Chosen Viewing community, and it is the scene where Jesus is alone practicing or preparing for a sermon/teaching he will be giving. The point of debate was "Would Jesus *need to practice what He was going to say*?" or "*Why* would Jesus need to practice what He was to say, He is God .. Would He REALLY need to practice?" What are your thoughts on this scene. Did you like it? Did you ever picture Jesus this way? Do you think it's the wrong portrayal of Jesus?



Episode 5 Link: <u>https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E5</u> Via The Chosen App, down load here: <u>https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen</u>

QUESTIONS FOR YOU & GROUP

- This episode is rich and deep. What do you think is going on with Mary Magdalene in this episode? How does your past interfere with your present?
- Mary lets her past get the best of her and believes she isn't worthy to stay at the camp and learn from Jesus. How do we keep ourselves, and each other, from feeling this way?
- The Pharisees cross-examine Jesse. Then Atticus also says to him, "I believe it was a miracle," to which Jessie responds, "I know it was a miracle." Do you believe in miracles today? Why or why not?
- Did this episode change your perspective on the miracles that Jesus performed? Do they seem a little more real?
- Mary is teaching Ramah to read, using scripture. She is also teaching Matthew on the side. What role does scripture reading play in your life? What fresh commitment can you make to reading the Bible? What has held you back to this point?
- Simon the Zealot saves Mary from Caleb's attack. What did you think about that encounter with the demon and how Jesus responded? What do you believe about demons and their activity today?
- Should we be afraid of demons? Why or why not?
- Simon the Zealot asks Jesus, "Why do you need someone like me?" Jesus responded, "I have everything I need. But I wanted you." How does that impact you in reference to Jesus' wanting you?
- Jesus and his cousin John the Baptist share a powerful conversation. John's impatience with his perception of Jesus' slowness shows. How do we demonstrate impatience with Jesus' timing? What else stuck out to you with/about their conversation/
- Jesus is emotional upon John's departure. What does this scene reveal about each character?
- Why do you think Schmuel, the Pharisee, is so set on discrediting Jesus? Do you ever see a similar attitude in people today?

More Details about Episode 5

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus and that he baptized Jesus. We tend to remember his unique dress and his strange diet. Something we might forget is John's conflict with Herod Antipas, his arrest, and his ultimate fate. Although these details might be considered "spoilers" in a sense, this episode of The Chosen expects us to come in with a knowledge of what's ahead. Without the knowledge of John's fate, the meeting between Jesus and John actually feels a bit random and out of place, and the strong dramatic irony that The Chosen is going for will be missed. This is not a "twist" that The Chosen is trying to hide; it's a doom that the show foreshadows and marches toward with a sad solemnity.

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Quotable Quotes

"Welcome back" - Jesus to Caleb

"I just dropped the basket and ran. I totally ignored the prayers in my hands." — *Mary Magdala*

1 am always ready to do my Father's will, doesn't make it easy. — *Jesus to John*









SEASON 2 EPISODE 5 – SPIRIT



One struggle we have as sinful humans is to forget the painful and the sinful filled paths we have been on. We know we are loved and forgiven but our mistake filled pasts want to bring us back and down. We seem to be on a new path but when we are confronted by past pains or our past failures, it is easy for the devil and our own voices to tell us we are going right back to that path and nothing has changed. How easy is it to go back to that life and those ways? And then how much worse is it, because we tell ourselves we should know better and have ways of and dealing with our past. We know God and his word and promises. We have other Christians and ways to escape temptation and to find healing and help. Yet while we are in this earthly life our past pains and huts, our past sins and mistakes tend to sneak back up on us and want to drag us down. This is one of the topics this episode and the next will consider.

Some of these deeper questions may seem to repeat other discussion questions, but they are worth repeating to allow deeper thoughts, discussions and / or journaling.

I. Mary

1. What shook Mary? Why? What was her response? (Mary will explain later)

II. Questioned

2. What happened before this questioning?

3. What do Jesse and Atticus discuss?

Thank you to: Northstar Church, Down the Hobbit Hole Blog Grace Fellowship Church and Morrison Zion Lutheran for the information, template and permission of use that allowed our E-team to create these guides.

III. Meetings on the Road

- 4. Who does Simon meet? What is he struggling with?
- 5. Describe Mary's demeanor. Why is this?
- 6. What do John and Jesus discuss? How are they different? How are they similar?
- 7. During their conversation what does Jesus stress? What is talked about concerning prophecies?

IV. Two Visitors to Camp

- 8. Note how each person responds to the demon possessed man. Who confronts him and why?
- 9. What surprises Simon the Zealot?
- 10. Why does Mary leave?

V. More Inquiries

- 11. Why are Shmuel and Yanni frustrated?
- 11. What does Simon learn speaking to Jesus?

VI. Departures

- 12. What is Mary struggling with? What does she choose to do because of this?
- 13. Have you ever relapsed into a past sin or sinful life? What did it cause and how did it make you feel? What brought you back?
- 14. How does Jesus react to John's departure? Why?

VII. Next Steps

- 15. What are the Pharisees planning? What are their next steps?
- 16. What do the disciples discover? What instructions does Jesus give?





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The Story of Jesus For Us =•= Unlawful=•=

Season 2 Episode 6

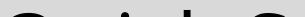
EPISODE 6 SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES ►►Matthew 9:14-16 ▶1 Samuel 21:1-9

- ▶lsaiah 58:1-14
- ►Hosea 6:6
- ►►Matthew 12:1-8
- ►►Mark 2:18-27
- ▶▶Luke 6:6-11
- ▶ John 1:1-18

CHARACTERS

Jesus, Mary Magdalene, Ramah, David, Abiathar, Matthew, Peter, Pharisees (Schmuel, Yanni), Elam (man with withered hand)

Video length 44:34



Quick Summary

We're back with Jesus and the disciples and camp. It's not going well. Mary has left camp. Someone's arrested. And the food is scarce. It's hard to understand why God is letting the disciples experience this. Jesus reminds us that God is the Lord of the Sabbath- that He is in control. That He loves people. It was a really beautiful episode.

The Bigger Questions:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?

HELPFUL LINKS

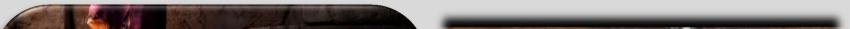
Watch The Chosen Episodes:



Episode 6 Link: <u>https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E6</u> Via The Chosen App, down load here: <u>https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen</u>

QUESTIONS FOR YOU & GROUP

- While the search for Mary Magdalene and her fall from grace are not a part of scripture, what IS true about how Jesus searches for the lost and restores the sinner?
- How have you experienced forgiveness from the Lord?
- Mary said to Peter, "He already fixed me once. I'm broke again. I can't face him." It's a common fear after our failure. Have you ever felt that, and how did you press through it? What would you tell someone who feels that they can't face Jesus because of their failure?
- Some have expressed concern about the creative license with dialogue and story that The Chosen sometimes displays. Why is it important to be able to distinguish between what is in the scriptural narrative and what is not?
- The Pharisees are seen plotting and squabbling about Jesus. Why are they so concerned about Him? What do you like about them? What do you dislike?
- Phillip and Andrew are hit hard by the news of John the Baptist's arrest. Jesus also is emotional over it. Mary is missing. The food supply is short. Things seem bad. How do we respond when things seem to be falling apart around us? Why were the disciples shocked by Jesus' decision to "pray" about things? Why is it hard for us to see prayer as a first step toward dealing with life's issues?
- Have you thought before about the irony of the disciples being hungry following the Bread of Life? How do you think you would have responded to a situation like that?
- The episode began with a flashback to David. It ends with the disciples eating grain. What was Jesus teaching about the Sabbath and our relationship to it?
- Where are you too legalistic with your faith? Where can you be more understanding and compassionate this week?



Quotable Quotes

"What if you were cut off from Jesus by something in your past? Would you want help getting back to Him as soon as possible?" — *Matthew*





"Did you really think you'd never struggle or sin again?" - Jesus







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"What is wrong with you? " - Synagogue leader "Apparently EVERYTHING!" -Jesus

SEASON 2 EPISODE 6 – UNLAWFUL

What is right and wrong in the eyes of God? And how does one become reconciled to God? These are topics focused on in this episode. As people struggle with what to do and how to do it, we also focus on why God does some things and not others. When we fall short and fall back into sin, we question God and ourselves. In all things, all to often we tend to trust or selves or only look to what we think is possible and not look to God and to see what he has promised and to trust that he can and will do things his way which so often is far better than we could ever imagine.

Some of these deeper questions may seem to repeat other discussion questions, but they are worth repeating to allow deeper thoughts, discussions and / or journaling.

I. Eating Bread

1. Why was David in this situation?

II. Searching

- 2. What is Simon noticing about Matthew?
- 3. What is Ramah questioning concerning Mary Magdalene leaving? What does Mother Mary teach and encourage her?

III. Lost

Thank you to: Northstar Church, *Down the Hobbit Hole* Blog Grace Fellowship Church and **Morrison Zion Lutheran** for the information, template and permission

- 4. What is Mary noticing about where she is and who she is with?
- 5. What is Thomas struggling with?
- 6. What different topics do John and James discuss?
- 7. What overall theme are the disciples struggling with?

IV. Found

- 8. Why doesn't Mary want to go back?
- 9. What does Matthew confess? Why?

V. More Inquiries

- 10. What issues of the law are discussed by the Pharisees?
- 11. What are Yanni and Shmuel hoping to accomplish

VI. Trusting in God's ways or Man's ways

- 12. What has happened to John the Baptist?
- 13. How does Jesus act with Mary? What does he say to her?
- 14. What does Mary say? Why?

15. What important truths are discussed in the conversation between Jesus and Mary?

VII. Misunderstood

- 16. What does Jesus share about how they are being misunderstood?
- 17. What does Jesus do in the Synagogue? How do the leaders try to do? Why? How does Jesus respond?
- 18. What does Simon do? Why?
- 19. When confronted what does Jesus say to the Synagogue leaders?
- 20. What do the Synagogue leaders do when they return to town? Why do they seem excited? What do they hope to accomplish?

of use that allowed our E-team to create these guides.

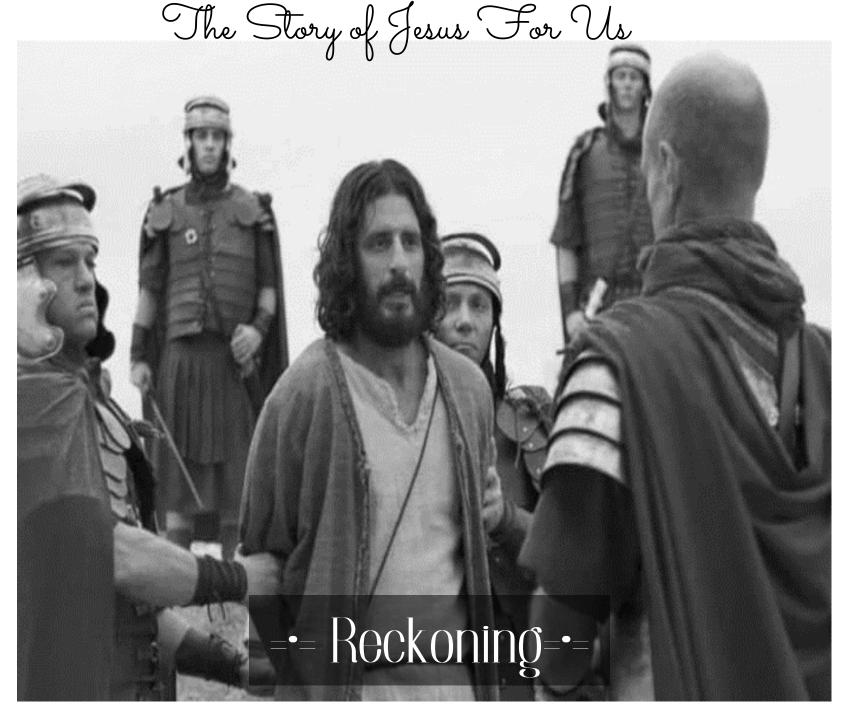




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Season 2 Episode 7

EPISODE 7 SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

- ▶ Matthew 4: 12-17
- ▶ Matthew 6: 5-15
- ►►Matthew 10:24-39

CHARACTERS Jesus and disciples; Pharisees: Shmuel, Yanni, Yousef; Romans: Quintus, Atticus, Gaius; Others: Tamar & the Paralytic

Video length 42:58

Quick Summary

Jesus and the disciples prepare for a big sermon and gathering- one that will define their ministry. But they aren't the only ones that have plans related to their ministry- troubles closing in too. After learning of Jesus' whereabouts, Quintus sends Gaius to arrest him. The disciples lose control as they argue about how to respond. While seeking information about where Jesus has been taken, Andrew and Philip encounter old friends. Quintus and Jesus have a discussion and come to an understanding. The reckoning isn't just a legal one, but a spiritual one as well.

The Bigger Questions:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?





HELPFUL LINKS

Watch The Chosen Episodes:

Episode 7 Link: <u>https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E7</u> Via The Chosen App, down load here: <u>https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen</u>

QUESTIONS FOR YOU & GROUP

- The episode begins with Peter and Andrew, James and John out fishing because Jesus sent them to do so. The disciples seem to be struggling with whether they will have "enough." How/why do you find it hard to trust Jesus in moments of need?
- Peter tells Andrew that he should fish because Jesus told them to. "Do as he says or bad things will happen." How does this reveal a sad reality to their thoughts about Jesus at this point in their relationship? Do you ever struggle with similar thoughts? How/why?
- We see Andrew in this episode consumed with fear and worry. Why? Could anyone connect with some of the ways that he was reacting to the detaining of Jesus?
- Which groups and people are tracking down Jesus and why?
- Jesus' followers were concerned that the Romans and/or Jewish leaders could ruin Jesus' plans. What thoughts do you have about whether their fear was justified? How do we demonstrate that attitude today?
- Atticus said he'd seen Jesus do miracles but that Jesus didn't strike him as being scary or crazy ... and that scared him. What do you think he meant?
- Why were the Pharisees intent on condemning Jesus at this point in His ministry? Why were the Romans concerned about Jesus' activities?
- What did you think about the encounter between Jesus and Quintus? What did you notice about how Jesus responded?
- What was significant about Andrew and Philip's encounter in the marketplace?
- Andrew criticized Mary for leaving Jesus (and them) after she had experienced such radical deliverance. Jesus demonstrates such quick forgiveness to the repentant heart. Why do we struggle to forgive in the same way?
- Andrew's fear is paralyzing his perspective. Jesus tells them, "You can't just shut down when you're fearful. What will you do when I'm no longer here?" How have you struggled with fear and its impact on your life? How have you seen fear impact others and the church?
- Jesus' constant calmness (and his modeling solitary prayer) convinces the disciples to ask Him to teach them how to pray. How did this scene impact you?

How do you tend to pray and do you think of it as a significant practice?

Quotable Quotes

"I can't keep what I know inside." – Tamar

"Get used to different, brother" – Peter

"I honestly ... Oh, Jesus of Nazareth... I LIKE you!" – *Quintus*

"So teach us.. To pray like you do." — *Peter*









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"If your race weren't repugnant & odious... I'd offer you a job!"

- Quintus **"I can not take that as a compliment"** - Jesus

SEASON 2 EPISODE 7 – RECKONING

We all have certain reckonings in our life, times when we have to admit to the truth and face the facts. There are things we tried to avoid, but some things are inevitable. For Jesus the division and conflict he brings is something that is inevitable. He comes to bring peace, but this world is filled with sin and is against him. This includes ourselves, as our sinful nature and human ways are often contrary to God and his ways. In this episode we see how Jesus brings conflict and division in different ways, among the Romans, the Pharisees and even among the disciples. Jesus knows that there are reckonings ahead in his ministry and he tries to prepare his disciples for what they will face.

Some of these deeper questions may seem to repeat other discussion questions, but they are worth repeating to allow deeper thoughts, discussions and / or journaling.

I. Divisions growing

1. Why is Andrew on edge? What happened recently?

II. Preparations

2. Take note of how the disciples obey Jesus and his commands in this episode. Why is this?

3. What is Jesus preparing for? What is he stressing about it?

III. Investigations

4. What are the Pharisees investigating? Who are they searching for?

5. Why does it seem like the Romans are searching for Jesus?

IV. Divisions

6. Andrew explains some of the reasons he is on edge. What are some of them?

- 7. How does Jesus react to being detained? How do the disciples react?
- 8. What does Jesus tell his disciples before he leaves? What do they do?

9. Who do Philip and Andrew find? What are they doing and why? How does Andrew react? Why?

V. Flesh and Bones

- 10. What different events involving Jesus have caught Quintus's attention? How does he feel about Jesus?
- 11. How does Jesus act when questioned by "the authorities?"

VI. News is Spreading

- 12. Who do the Pharisees meet during their investigation?
- 13. What does the Ethiopian say about why she is sharing about Jesus?
- 14. What was Jesus doing before he returned? What does he teach them upon his return?

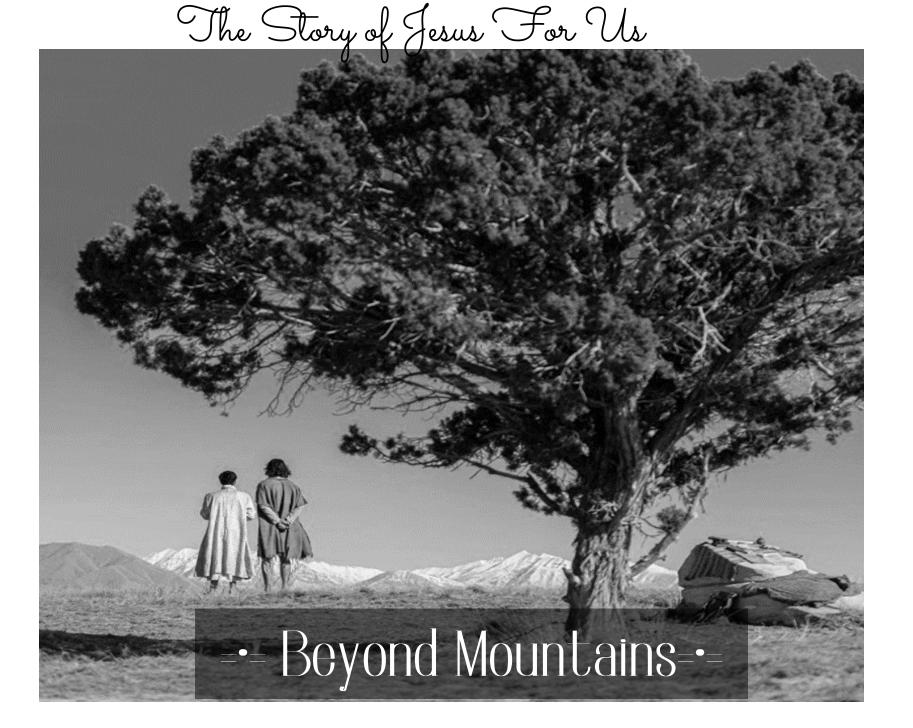


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Season 2 Episode 8



EPISODE 8 SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES ▶Isaiah 9:6-7

▶ Psalm 139:13-16

- ▶►Matthew 5:1-16
- ►►Matthew 5-7
- ►►Matthew 7:12

►►Mark 3:13-19

CHARACTERS Jesus and disciples; Salesman & Apprentice, Pharisees: Rabbi Shammai, Shmuel, Yanni **Romans**: Atticus, Gaius; **Others**: Tamar, Ramah, Mary, Mother Mary, Eden

Video length 56:51

Quick Summary

While Jesus and Matthew prepare the content of the big sermon, the disciples spread the word while fighting amongst themselves. A high-ranking Sanhedrin member is shocked by Shmuel's reports on Jesus. Thousands arrive for the sermon, including familiar faces. Jesus has returned to the camp and is preparing for what we call the Sermon on the Mount with Matthew. In doing so, we get an explanation of parts of what is recorded in Matthew 5-7. The rest of the disciples are preparing the space (with a lot of arguing) and telling people about the event. Meanwhile, we catch a glimpse of the battle between the two schools of the Pharisees – that of Hillel and that of Shammai. And there is a substantial amount of political maneuvering being planned by some of them, involving Jesus. There is a hint of romance. And we are again struck by the gender equality among the followers of Jesus. The viewer also sees some returning characters from Season One as well as some new series characters!

The Bigger Questions:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?





HELPFUL LINKS Watch The Chosen Episodes: Episode 8 Link: <u>https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen/watch?vid=S2:E8</u> Via The Chosen App, down load here: <u>https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen</u>

QUESTIONS FOR YOU & GROUP

- Why can't the disciples all agree on how to help prepare for the sermon event?
- The episode begins two salesmen negotiating a deal for land. What role did they have in this episode? What were your thoughts when it was revealed who the apprentice was?
- Simon the Zealot comes back to camp from a run, and is told, "Obsession with exercising smacks of Hellenism." Do you know what Hellenism is? Do you ever wonder about our culture's attitude toward physical fitness or lack of it?
- The last few episodes led to this one as Jesus has been preparing for the Sermon on the Mount. What roles/contributions did you see the disciples making? How can we motivate one another in our churches today to serve?
- You see Mary teaching Ramah to read from Psalm 139. Why did that passage seem to cause deep reflection in Mary?
- In speaking of the anticipated turnout for the sermon, John said, "What if no one shows up?" Mary said, "What if everyone shows up?" Which response do you tend to identify more often with and why?
- There are several places in the New Testament where Jesus may be reacting to a teaching that was specific to either Hillel or Shammai. As this episode indicates, Hillel was usually the more lenient of the two. How is this religious disagreement shaping responses to Jesus?
- The Pharisees continue to plot, and we see their own internal divisions as they seek to undermine the school Hillel, Nicodemus and Shimon. Rabbi Shammai's summation of the charges so far against Jesus are: •self identifies using a divine title •claims authority to forgive sin •violates Sabbath and teaches others same •eats with tax collectors and sinners

What do you think about the attitude of the Pharisees about Jesus? How are they right? How are they wrong?

- How did you feel about Jesus taking Matthew with him to help prepare the sermon? How did it help you have a new perspective of the Sermon on the Mount?
- Jesus told Matthew, "I don't want passive followers." What kind of follower does Jesus want? Have you
- ever been a passive follower of Jesus? What changed for you?
- When you saw all the planning and preparation for the Sermon (construction, handing out fliers, finding land), and then saw the crowd walking to the location, what are some conclusions you can draw?
- How did it hit you when Jesus spoke the Beatitudes ("blessed are you") and you saw scenes from His disciples for each one? Which beatitude did He speak to Matthew? Which one might He speak to you today?
- Which of the beatitudes feels the closest to you? What about the hardest or farthest from you?
- Go through the beatitudes and think of one person in your life who portrays each of these traits.
- Jesus says the Sermon on the Mount is a manifesto of revolution and radical shift. What did he mean by this?
- Were you surprised when we learned who the apprentice was?- or did you see it coming? What do you see in his character so far?



Quotable Quotes

"If someone wants to find me, those are the groups [of people] they should look for." – Jesus
"I want a life I can be proud of – that will be remembered throughout history." – Judas

CHURCH CONTACTS It's a manifesto Matthew!! – Jesus website: <u>www.saintleos.org</u>

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SEASON 2 EPISODE 8 – BEYOND MOUNTAINS

Who does Jesus care about and speak to? People can study and read the Bible for years and years. They can know and have knowledge of Jesus. But Jesus and his love for us is personal. He cares for each and every one of the people in this world. He wants them to know of him and his love. And he knows each and everyone of us personally. The diversity of the followers of Jesus and his unique and all surpassing love and teachings are explored in this episode.

Some of these deeper questions may seem to repeat other discussion questions, but they are worth repeating to allow deeper thoughts, discussions and / or journaling.

I. Making a Deal

1. What deal is the Salesman & Apprentice trying to make? (For real what did they want)

II. Preparations and Questions

- 2. How are the disciples interacting with each other? Why
- 3. What items concerning the sermon do the disciples discuss?



4. What is Mary focusing on? Why?

5. What does Thomas call how the disciples are acting? What can't they agree on?

III. Reviewing the deal

6. What do the two salesmen discuss? What are they seeking?

IV. Compiling the Complaints

7. What is Rabbai Shammai's plan? Why is he thankful for all of these reports? 8. How do Yanni and Shmuel react to his plan?

V. Finding the right words

9. Why does Jesus say there may be divisions and disagreements among his followers?

10. What is Jesus preparing for? What does he discuss with Matthew? What does Matthew point out? What does Jesus explain?

VI. Finding the right place

11. What do the salesmen do to help? What do they decide to do after?

VII. Final Preparations

- 12. What are the disciples concerned about?
- 13. How does Jesus want to begin his sermon? Why is it a map?
- 14. What do you find interesting about this episode? What did you like? Anything you find surprising?
- 15. Who do we meet at the end of the episode?

