

THE CHOSEN - Discussion Questions

1- The Chosen Episode One: I Have Called You By Name

Quick Summary:

We are introduced to Mary Magdalene and a few of the disciples.

Read for Bible Study:

Luke 8:1-15 (Mary, Seed Parable, Parable Meanings) Mark 16: 6-11 (Jesus appears to Mary first)

The Chosen Discussion Questions:

- 1) It's interesting to see how the religious and political environment looked in Jesus' day. What were some things you found interesting?
- 2) What did you think of how Matthew the tax collector and Simon Peter were portrayed? Can you identify with their character traits/personalities?
- 3) Why do you think Jesus appears to Mary first? Jesus calls Mary by her name and tells her she is redeemed. How can we remind ourselves of this truth and live it out in our daily lives?

2- The Chosen Episode Two: Shabbat

Quick Summary:

The Sabbath from different perspectives. In this episode we see Jesus perform a miracle that the holy leaders can not. We also get a little more background on the difficulties of being Jewish and living under Roman rule.

Read for Bible Study:

Deuteronomy 5:12-14 (The Sabbath) Matthew 18:15-17 (Resolving conflict, tax collectors) Matthew 17:24-27 (Jesus and Tax Collectors)

The Chosen Discussion Questions:

- 1) We rest and honor family, our people and God on the Sabbath; we refresh our souls. Rest is a restorative gift. What are some ways you could use rest as a restorative gift in your life?
- 2) Which Sabbath was Jesus a part of and why? Which Sabbath would you have been at and why?
- 3) Simon Peter and Andrew were in a tough/desperate position, what do you think about how they handled it? How would you have handled the dilemma they were in?
- 4) When a miracle happens, are you one to question every detail, or just enjoy and celebrate it?

3- The Chosen Episode Three: Jesus Loves the Little Children

Quick Summary:

A group of kids learn from Jesus for a week. The bold and simple faith of childhood is on display. Begging the question- do you embrace a childlike faith?

Read for Bible Study:

Luke 18: 15-17 (Let the children come), Mark 9:42, Mark 3:13-19 (the disciples appointed)

The Chosen Discussion Questions:

- 1) Jesus is shown as personable. Is it strange or refreshing for you to think of Jesus as personable and why?
- 2) What does it say to you that Jesus intentionally made time for children? about and show compassion? What are some examples of compassion you have encountered in your life?

3) "Adults need the faith of children." How can we intentionally have faith as a child?

4) It was easy for Abigail to tell her friends about Jesus- how easy is it for you? What struggles do you face when telling your friends and family about Jesus?

4- The Chosen Episode Four: The Rock on Which it is Built

Quick Summary:

During this hour we see Jesus teach about what it means to be fishers of people- and trust that God will take care of us.

Read for Bible Study:

John 1:19-28 (John the Baptist is questioned by Pharisees), John 21 (Miraculous Catch), Luke 5:1-11 (Jesus calls the fisherman)

The Chosen Discussion Questions:

1) Jesus provided for Simon's physical need- but the miracle was more than that. He changed Simon's mindset, called him to something more! Not to riches, but to spreading the good news for the sake of others souls. What soul work has Jesus called you to do?

2) John the Baptist was considered a heretic, and crazy. If the religious leaders of Jesus' day were constantly missing the point- is it possible that we are missing some of the main points in our evangelical Christian culture?

3) Share a moment in your life where the miracle of the fished has metaphorically happened for you. When you've thought there was absolutely no way that something would work, but God made it happen.

4) Sometimes we forget how intense the teachings of Jesus were. His parables and teachings were not sanitized, feel-good messages. What do you think the impact of this miracle would have meant in the context of Jesus' time?

5- The Chosen Episode Five: The Wedding Gift

Quick Summary:

In this episode we see a flashback of Jesus as a child, and his mother calling him into his time of ministry at a family wedding. The miracle of turning water into wine.

Read for Bible Study:

John 2:1-11 (Jesus turns water to wine), Luke 2:41-52 (The boy Jesus at the temple)

Discussion Questions:

1) Instead of condemning John, Nicodemus sat down and said "Tell me about your ministry." When's the last time you sat down and talked to someone you might not agree with and simply said "Tell me more."?

2) This passage is often viewed as Jesus correcting/ directing his mother, but that's not the path the show runners took. What do you think that might have looked like?

3) Jesus reassures Thomas that while it's good to ask questions, that we won't always understand the answers, or even get answers. How do you handle this?

6- The Chosen Episode Six: Indescribable Compassion

Quick Summary:

Jesus heals and urges people to remember to be vigilant with their faith, remembering that no one person is greater than any other. We are all God's beloved creation. While the following of Jesus is growing, His enemies are also growing in number.

Read for Bible Study:

Mark 2:1-12 (Jesus heals the man let down through the roof), Matthew 8:1-4 (Jesus heals a leper), Luke 12: 36-48 (The parable of the servant), Matthew 6: 1-18 (Giving to the needy and prayer)

Discussion Questions:

- 1) Which part of this episode was the most different from how you imagined it being after reading the passage in Scripture?
- 2) "We can do both", walking the road that has been laid out for us and also keeping our eyes open. What did you think of Nicodemus' speech? In what ways have you put God in a box?
- 3) There was a LOT of compassion emphasized in this episode. How did Jesus preach about and show compassion? What are some examples of compassion you have encountered in your life?

7- The Chosen Episode Seven: Invitations**Quick Summary:**

Jesus calls Matthew to follow Him. He talks to Nicodemus. And we also see an act of faith from Moses.

Read for Bible Study:

John 3:1-21 (Jesus teaches Nicodemus), Matthew 9: 9-13 (Jesus calls Matthew), Numbers 21:4-9 (Moses and the bronze snake)

The Chosen Discussion Questions:

- 1) Did it surprise you how quickly Matthew agreed to follow Jesus? Especially in comparison to how timid Nicodemus was?
- 2) If you feel like sharing- what is your story of being saved by Jesus?
- 3) It can be shocking to read stories like the bronze snake. God demands obedience and faith. What daily habits can we develop and strengthen to become as quick to obedience as Matthew was?

8- The Chosen Episode Eight: I Am He**Quick Summary:**

We see Jesus gather the disciples begin His season of earthly ministry. He talks to the woman at the well.

Read for Bible Study:

Mark 2:13-17 (Jesus eats with sinners), John 4:1-42 (The story of the Woman at the Well)

The Chosen Discussion Questions:

- 1) Obedience at the risk of derision and opposition from others, even from our usual way of life seems impossible. Discuss the different ways people reacted to Jesus' directions, the directions of family, and from peers
- 2) Jesus mentions several times that he's not trying to bring people 'easy', nor is he here to deliver them from their oppressive government. What is Jesus' purpose in coming and in bringing His disciples to follow him?
- 3) Do some self reflection, has there ever been a time in your life where you were as excited about Jesus as the woman at the well was? How can we bring back some of that excitement?
- 4) Who were the first told about Jesus' birth? Who did He first tell about His ministry? What were