

**As you watch the Chosen series remember that while scripture and historical evidence are heavily used in creating this series the directors also take artistic freedom in filling in the gaps.**

Ask these 3 questions after each episode

What did you learn about Jesus?

What do you like about Jesus?

What questions do you have about Jesus?

## **Episode 1 - You Are Called**

Matthew 2:1-10 — Episode 1

Matthew 2:1-20 — Episode 1

Luke 8:2 — Episode 1

- Initial thoughts about the episode? What'd you pick up from it?

Four flawed-but-called in this episode:

-*Mary Magdalene* - traumatic past, history of abuse, evil has done upon her

-*Nicodemus* - knowledgeable about scripture and about holy things, knows the answers, knows the faith, but the faith isn't personal

-*Matthew* - rich, well off, not thinking about others, only himself and the job

-*Simon* - in a rut, willing to do anything to get out of the rut, truly in a bind, and has made a deal with the devil to get out of it

- Which of these four flawed-but-called characters in this episode do you identify with the most?
- Mary's father encouraged her with Scripture as a girl and we see Jesus repeat this Scripture to her at the end of the episode. In what ways did knowing Scripture help, Mary? What importance do you see in memorizing/knowing Scripture? How has Scripture helped you in your life? (Isaiah 43:1)
- Do you feel worthy of being called by Jesus? Why/why not?
- What would you say to someone who feels unworthy of Jesus (like Mary)?
- Jesus spent His time with the outcasts of society but Nicodemus seems disgusted by them. Do you spend your time with poor and outcast people? Do you go to them as Jesus did?
- Nicodemus begin to question what he thought he knew about the Scriptures. Have you ever questioned the Scriptures? What was the result?
- What would you say to someone who is confident in their goodness or faith (like Nicodemus)?
- What is your/our calling? These people became disciples. What does that word mean to you?
- How can we become disciples of Jesus? How can we help others become disciples of Jesus?

## Episode 2 - Shabbat

Matthew 10:2-4 — Episode 2

Mark 1:29 — Episode 2

Mark 3:9-12 — Episode 2

Mark 3:16-19 — Episode 2

Mark 15:40 — Episode 2

Luke 6:13-16 — Episode 2

Luke 10 — Episode 2

John 9 — Episode 2

John 2:4 — Episode 2

- Initial thoughts about the episode?
- When it comes to practicing your own Sabbath-day rest, which character do you relate to the most, and why?
  - Mary works fervently preparing for the dinner
  - Nicodemus has the sabbath done to him
  - Peter ignores the sabbath, works.
- “Be still, and know that I am God.” How did you see the characters practice their “stillness”? How would meditating on God have impacted Mary’s healing process? Nicodemus’s priorities? Matthew’s striving? Simon’s impatience or confusion?
- Why does Nicodemus have such a hard time believing that the possessed woman has been healed?
- Simon relies on his own ability to solve problems, do you struggle with the same issue?
- How has Mary changed after her encounter with Jesus?
- “I was one way and now I am completely different. And the thing that happened in between was Him.” Do you have that kind of story?
- Keeping the Sabbath is most obviously marked by not working. However, God’s primary intention behind the commandment is to spend the day as Mary did - to enter into His presence.
- What needs to change in your schedule or in your mindset to rest the way God intended?

## Episode 3 - You Are Cherished

Matthew 5:38-42 — Episode 3

Matthew 6:9-13 — Episode 3

Luke 4:16-21 — Episode 3

- Initial thoughts about the episode?
- What qualities do children have that we should seek to emulate?
- Whose imagined childhood experience do you most identify with?
  - Mary's darkness and brokenness? Nicodemus's need to perform and earn his worth? Matthew's rebellion and isolation? Simon's constant struggle to make a life for himself?
- Read through our four main characters coming to Jesus' stories.
  - Luke 8:1-3; John 3:1-12; Matthew 9:9-13; and Luke 5:1-11.
- In spite of having vastly different life experiences, what do all four of these people have in common?
- How should you respond to the idea that Jesus cherishes you enough to (a) ransom Himself as payment for your sin and (b) restore your relationship with God?
- We have seen that Jesus is gathering a small number of chosen people. What does that tell us about Jesus' way of discipleship? How can we start disciplining a small number of chosen people?
- We see the love of Jesus throughout this episode. Specifically towards the children.
- What are ways that we can help love, teach and disciple the younger generation?

## Episode 4 - You Change Course

Matthew 3:4-6 — Episode 4

Matthew 3:7 — Episode 4, Episode 6

Matthew 4:18-22 — Episode 4

Matthew 13:1-23 — Episode 4

Matthew 13:47-52 — Episode 4

Mark 1:4-6 — Episode 4

Mark 1:16-20 — Episode 4

Mark 4:1-20 — Episode 4

Luke 3:3 — Episode 4

Luke 3:7 — Episode 4, Episode 6

Luke 3:10-14 — Episode 4

Luke 3:19-20 — Episode 4

Luke 5:1-11 — Episode 4

Luke 8:4-15 — Episode 4

John 1:28-29 — Episode 4

John 1:35-42 — Episode 4

- Initial thoughts on the episode?
- Simon has a very honest conversation with God while fishing at night. Have you ever had a conversation like that?
- What is your come-to-Jesus story?  
I was \_\_\_\_\_  
But God \_\_\_\_\_  
And now \_\_\_\_\_
- How has your story helped someone else's story? How has Jesus used your story?
- How can your story help others take one step closer to Jesus, every day?
- Jesus' request of Simon is simple: follow me. The request is open to all people, have you answered this request? Do you answer it daily?
- What area of your life do you need to leave behind in order to follow Jesus more fully?

## Episode 5 - You are a Witness

Matthew 3:3 — Episode 5

Mark 1:3 — Episode 5

Luke 2:41-52 — Episode 5

Luke 3:4 — Episode 5

John 1:23 — Episode 5

John 2:1-12 — Episode 5

- Initial thoughts on the episode?
- What characteristics of Jesus have you noticed over the past few episodes? Has this portrayal of Jesus impacted your understanding of Him?
- Several times in this episode the disciples talk about watching Jesus and Jesus even tells Thomas to watch. We do not have the advantage of watching Jesus as the disciples did, so how can we “watch” and learn from Jesus?
- Even in his search for the truth, we see Nicodemus resist it. Why do some resist the truth? Do you find yourself resisting truth in areas of your life?
- Toward the end of the episode, Jesus says to Thomas, “Come with Me and I’ll show you a new way to count and measure. A different way to see time.” What do you think that means? Could it relate to Thomas’ priorities?
- We prioritize the things in our life that we deem the most important. What are your main priorities in life? What do you spend most of your time and energy pursuing?
- What things could you deny in your own life for a closer relationship with Jesus? Is there anything you are clinging to that is holding you back from following Him completely?

## Episode 6 - You are made new

Matthew 3:7 — Episode 4,  
Episode 6

Matthew 3:11 — Episode 6

Matthew 5:14-16 — Episode  
6

Matthew 6:2-8 — Episode 6

Matthew 6:28-30 — Episode  
6

Matthew 8:1-4 — Episode 6

Matthew 9:1-8 — Episode 6

Matthew 21:23-27 —  
Episode 6

Matthew 24:36 — Episode 6

Matthew 25:1-13 — Episode  
6

Mark 1:7 — Episode 6

Mark 1:40-44 — Episode 6

Mark 1:45 — Episode 6,  
Episode 7

Mark 2:1-12 — Episode 6

Mark 11:27-33 — Episode 6

Mark 13:32 — Episode 6

Luke 3:7 — Episode 4,  
Episode 6

Luke 3:16 — Episode 6

Luke 5:12-26 — Episode 6

Luke 8:16 — Episode 6

Luke 11:33-36 — Episode 6

Luke 12:27-28 — Episode 6

Luke 13:1-5 — Episode 6

Luke 18:1-14 — Episode 6

Luke 20:1-8 — Episode 6

John 1:27 — Episode 6

- Initial thoughts on the episode?
- Which of our four main characters do you relate to most regarding your own transformation?
  - Mary, whose life was changed in an instant?
  - Nicodemus, who remained resistant and skeptical, perhaps even unwilling to undergo the changes that would come from following Jesus?
  - Matthew, who was earnest and open, though perhaps a little slower to make the leap?
  - Or Simon, who was all in early on, but who continued to struggle as he grew in faith?
- Read Mark 2:1-12. Try and imagine yourself as the different characters within this scripture.
  - The paralyzed man. The friends who brought him to Jesus. The crowd.
  - The teachers of the law.
- What emotions would you be feeling for each? What thoughts would you have? How would you feel after this event.
- In this episode, Matthew makes an insightful comment: “Conquest is not simply conquering nations, but imposing a new way of life.” In what ways does this describe the people Jesus saves?
- Like the leper in episode 6, some people have radical come-to-Jesus moments. Others experience change in their lives over time. Regardless of how fast or slow, Jesus always transforms the lives of His followers. What changes has He made in your life? What new things are you hoping still come?

## Episode 7 - You are established

Numbers 21:4-9 — Episode 7

Matthew 9:9 — Episode 7

Mark 1:45 — Episode 6, Episode 7

Mark 2:14 — Episode 7

Luke 5:27-28 — Episode 7

John 3:1-21 — Episode 7

- While faith and reason are not opposites, expressing faith in God invites us to move beyond our own finite levels of human comprehension and control. Can you describe a time when your experience with God invited you to move beyond your own capacity?
- We got to see Jesus calling Matthew to follow Him. What emotions and thoughts and feelings do you think we're going through Matthew when he was called?
- Simon was skeptical of Matthew becoming a Jesus follower. Have you ever been like Simon, somehow thinking it was your right or responsibility to judge other followers of Jesus?
- Someone read Colossians 2:6-7. Explain the difference between knowing about Jesus and being an established disciple.
- Think back on the John 3:16 scene. What stuck out to you? What did you take away from that?
- How would looking at Jesus instead of your circumstances change your circumstances

## Episode 8 - You are Carried

Genesis 33:19 — Episode 8

Matthew 8:14-15 — Episode 8

Matthew 9:10-13 — Episode 8

Mark 1:29-31 — Episode 8

Mark 2:15-17 — Episode 8

Luke 4:38-39 — Episode 8

Luke 5:29-32 — Episode 8

John 4:1-42 — Episode 8

- Initial thoughts on the episode?
- At the beginning of the episode, Jacob says that: “We didn’t choose Him (our God), He chose us.” What does this good news mean to you?
- In following Jesus, there are things that He calls us to do and things to give up. What new thing are you afraid that Jesus might be leading you towards?
- The disciples were asked to travel throughout the region, telling people about Jesus with no provisions of their own. What do you imagine your response to Jesus would be if He asked the same of you?
- What kinds of things do you think Nicodemus missed out on by not following when others did? Like him, in what ways are you trying to do life in your own strength and in your own way?
- What tangible thing might God be calling you to say or say or do in order to put your faith into action?