

Episode 8: I Am He

While you watch: As you watch this episode, mark off each person and the main events that happen in the show. This will help to keep your focus so you can pay close attention to each character that is introduced.

Characters:

- Jacob
- Matthew
- Jesus
- Yussif
- Gaius
- Simon
- Shmuel
- Nicodemus
- Samaritan woman

Events:

- Jacob and sons dig a well
- Matthew dinner party
- Shmuel talks to Nicodemus about Jesus
- Jesus talks to Eden
- Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law
- Gaius talks to Matthew's parents
- Jesus talks to a Samaritan woman
- Samaritan woman tells disciples about Jesus
- Simon questions Jesus if it is time to tell people about him

Reflect on the episode: In this episode we see Jesus and the disciples preparing to leave Capernaum and head out on their missionary journey. But the episode starts out with a party, a Matthew party! Who doesn't like a party, especially when it is with Jesus?

Circle below the people that were at this party:

- **Mark 2:15-17 (ESV)** – ¹⁵ *And as he reclined at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him.* ¹⁶ *And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?”* ¹⁷ *And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”*
 - This is also mentioned in Matthew 9:10-13

Jesus was criticized by the Jewish leaders for eating with sinners. But while the sinners and outcasts were rejected by the Pharisees, Jesus accepted them. Already we can see Jesus is different, Jesus loves everyone and accepts everyone no matter what they have done in the past. He wasn't afraid to be seen with sinners. Is there someone you know who might be considered an outcast, or doesn't know Jesus? I challenge you to have a Matthew party! Invite people who may feel like outcasts or not accepted. Share the love of Jesus with them. Who can you invite? What is a good day to have your party?

Jesus referenced Hosea and the desire of God for mercy more than sacrifice.

- **Hosea 6:6 (ESV)** *For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offering.*

God wants our hearts, our love and us to know him. He is less concerned over whether we are following church traditions. Go to God in love because he will give you mercy. Jesus came for us sinners!

Before the disciples go on their trip they have to prepare for it. Simon talks to Jesus about being the only disciple that is married and how he is worried about Eden and his mother-in-law. This isn't news to Jesus, he knows that Simon's mother-in-law is sick, and you guessed it - he has a miracle up his sleeve. Read the passage below:

Bible Reference

The episode starts out with Jacob digging a well, known as Jacob's well. Given the details he mentions in the scene the reference comes from Genesis 33:18-19. While Jacob's well is not specifically stated in the Old Testament as something that Jacob dug, the fact that he bought the land as mentioned in Genesis 33, would mean he had to have a well.

- **Genesis 33:18-19 (ESV)** – ¹⁸ *And Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, on his way from Paddanaram, and he camped before the city.* ¹⁹ *And from the sons of Hamor, Shechem's father, he bought for a hundred pieces of money the piece of land on which he has pitched his tent.*

DID YOU KNOW?

- The well where the Samaritan woman talked to Jesus was the same Jacob's well that was referred to in the beginning of the episode. Read John 4:5.

DID YOU ALSO KNOW?

- Some bible translations call Matthew Levi. He was known by both names.

- **Luke 4:38-39 (ESV)** – ³⁸ And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. ³⁹ And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them.
 - This is also mentioned in Mark 1:29-31

Now that Simon’s mother-in-law is healed, and everyone has said good-bye to their families, Jesus and the disciples are ready to go on their way. Someone even anonymously gave them some money for their journey. Even though he gave it anonymously, we and Jesus know it was Nicodemus.

Nicodemus talks to his wife about Hagar saying “Adonai El Roi – You are a God of seeing” (See Genesis 16:13). It’s ironic that he tells his wife this story then he hides from Jesus. Jesus knows that he was there and he was the one that gave them the money for their journey. Nicodemus chooses to stay hidden and not seen by Jesus. Is there anything that you are hiding from Jesus? Is there sin that you need to repent of?

Nicodemus didn’t follow his heart and accept the invitation to follow Jesus. Have there been times in your life that you didn’t follow the Holy Spirit’s promptings? How did you feel when that happened? Do you find yourself following the Holy Spirit’s promptings for your life on a daily basis? Reflect below:

Next is the encounter that Jesus has with the Samaritan woman at the well. This is the longest recorded interaction that Jesus has with a person in the gospels and it is a woman!

Read John 4:5-30 for the full story.

- There is so much to unpack here! First, the Samaritan woman is so surprised that Jesus is talking to her, much less wants water from her jar because Jews and Samaritans do not get along. But like we saw from the Matthew party, Jesus doesn’t care about your race, or where you grew up.

- Second, Jesus called her out on her infidelity but did not condemn her for it. Where she felt judged by everyone, the other women in her town, the people at the marketplace, Jesus is not judging her. Do you ever feel like your past is holding you back? Do you feel you can't be loved by Jesus because of what you have done in your past?
 - You should know, and you can see it here in this passage with the woman at the well and at the Matthew party. Nothing that you do can separate you from the love of Jesus Christ. He loves you even though you have messed up, even though you did things in the past that you regret. Jesus loves you and wants to be with you. You just have to accept him. He has already accepted you.
- The third thing I want to point out in this passage is that Jesus reveals who he is to her. He tells her he is the Messiah.

I love the response that the Samaritan woman had from her interaction with Jesus. She didn't just leave casually, she left her water jar and ran to tell others. It says in **John 4:28-29 (ESV)** – ²⁸*So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people,* ²⁹*“Come see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?”* I find this response very convicting; I am not dropping everything to tell others about Jesus. However, I think Jesus wants this to be our response. We should be telling everyone about Jesus and be spreading the gospel. Even if it is only with one other person. Is there someone you can tell about Jesus today? Write their name on the line below:

Do you have your testimony prepared so you can share it with this person? Reflect below and detail what next steps you need to take so you can share about Jesus with someone this week.

The excitement at the end of the episode brought joy to my soul. Simon questions Jesus asking “You told her to tell others”? This was the first time that Jesus didn't say tell no one. Simon is ecstatic and yells “It is time!” Oh, what fun is in store for us as more and more people get to learn who Jesus is. That is the end of the first season and this scene definitely gets you so excited for what is to come in the next season! I hope you will join me in watching and reflecting on Season 2 in the next bible study!

References

This study is based on The Chosen show. Quotes and material from the show are included in this study.

The Chosen Season 1. Directed by Dallas Jenkins, 5&2 Studios, 2019.

References from other publications were noted. See below:

1 – “In what year did Jesus die?” - GotQuestions.org

2 – www.salvationpoem.com

Bible verses are referenced from the (ESV) English Standard Version of the bible.

The ESV Bible. (2001). English Standard Version [Online Version]. Crossway.