

Episode 8: Humble

The episode opens with King David entering a town as cloaks and palm branches are laid on the ground and the crowd sings, “Hosanna.” This should sound familiar because someone else will soon make a grand entrance in a similar way! More on that at the end of the episode. David then selects a lamb for Passover with his son. The lamb’s feet are anointed six days before the sacrifice. Did you catch his son’s name in the show? Read the passage below and circle the name of the second son.

- **I Chronicles 3:1 (ESV)** - These are the sons of David who were born to him in Hebron: the firstborn Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelite, the second, Daniel, by Abigail the Carmelite.

After Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead, everyone is talking about it. This miracle draws even more attention to Jesus, and larger crowds begin traveling to Jerusalem for Passover. Pilate and Atticus discuss the growing excitement surrounding Lazarus, whom they refer to as “the ghost.” Meanwhile, the Pharisees and Sadducees in the Sanhedrin are also discussing Jesus’ latest miracle. Shmuel decides to take Yussif with him to speak with Jesus, while Caiaphas wants to turn Jesus over to the Romans so they can kill him. Jesus and Lazarus have become the talk of the town!

Have you ever had an experience that helped you know Jesus is real? What led you to believe in him?

At the end of episode 7 we saw Mary take money and rush out in a hurry. Mary went to a merchant who sells expensive perfume. But she doesn’t want just any perfume, she wants the good stuff. She requests the best perfume the merchant has, spending 300 denarii – a year’s wages. What she will do with it; we will find out.

In the show, Herod and Pilate are talking about Lazarus and the dilemma this ghost is causing among the Jewish people. Pilate suggests that if Lazarus was not alive, there would not be proof that he was raised from the dead. This differs from scripture. Read the passage below and circle who is plotting to kill Lazarus.

- **John 12:9-11 (ESV)** - ⁹ When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The Jewish leaders arrive at Lazarus’ home while Jesus and the disciples are eating. They join them and start asking Jesus questions. They want to know what his plan is. Jesus replies with the response below. Read the passage and underline the last verse.

- **Matthew 25: 31-40 (ESV)** - ³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the

sheep from the goats. ³³ And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him saying, 'Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you? ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

What does it mean to you when Jesus says, "as you did to the one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me"? Are you treating all of your interactions as-if you they are with Jesus? What do you need to do to have this mindset?

While Jesus is finishing up his response to Shmuel and Yussif, Mary comes in and goes straight to Jesus. Circle what Mary puts on Jesus' feet. Underline what she wiped his feet with.

- **John 12:1-3 (ESV)** - ¹ Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. ³ Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with fragrance of the perfume.

Circle who spoke up after Mary put the perfume on Jesus' feet. Put a box around what the ointment was worth and underline Jesus' response.

- **John 12:4-8 (ESV)** - ⁴ but Judas Iscariot, one of the disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor? ⁶ He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

The disciples are concerned with Jesus' response. They question why they would not always have him. Jesus knows the end is coming and his death is approaching; however, the disciples still don't understand what is going on, even though Jesus has warned them many times.

Also at the dinner table, Jesus mentions a new commandment. Circle each time the word love is written.

- **John 13:34-35 (ESV)** - ³⁴ *A new commandment I give you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.* ³⁵ *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*

This new commandment sums up so many of God's commands. When we truly love one another, we are not going to murder, steal, lie, or envy others. Our love for one another is how people will recognize us as followers of Jesus. How can you live out this commandment more fully? What actions can you take this week to show love to others?

They all decide to head towards Jerusalem as the Passover will begin soon. Jesus asks a favor of Simon the Zealot and Matthew. Circle what Jesus wants them to bring to him.

- **Matthew 21:1-6 (ESV)** - ¹ *Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once."* ⁴ *This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵ "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'" (Old Testament reference: Zechariah 9:9)* ⁶ *The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them.*

Word spread through Jerusalem that Jesus was coming. People laid down their cloaks, grabbed palm branches, and gathered near the city gates to welcome him. Joanna also left her husband, took palm branches, and joined the crowd. Before Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem, he spoke to his disciples. These words are not recorded in Scripture, but let's reflect on them below.

"My time has come to do the will of the father in heaven." We know what is in store for Jesus and its going to be a very difficult trial. Jesus is going to get out of his comfort zone and be obedient to the point of death. Knowing that God has a plan for you and his will is the best way, is there something that he is asking you to do to get out of your comfort zone and be obedient?

Jesus also asks the disciples, “Will you come with me?” Peter answers, “Where else would we go, your words alone are eternal life.” The disciples have committed to follow Jesus, will you? The last thing he says in this episode is “In this world, I loved you as my own and I will love you until the end.” Jesus is not only saying this to his disciples, but to us as well. We are children of God and he loves us so much. Write a prayer to God asking him to help you be a follower of Jesus. Thank him for his love and reflect on what it means to be a child of God.

The end of Season 4 is here! As Jesus prepares to enter Jerusalem, even more awaits in Season 5, *The Last Supper*. I hope you enjoyed this study and will join me for *The Chosen* Season 5 guide as we continue watching the gospel story come to life.

Appendix - References

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

The Chosen Season 4. Directed by Dallas Jenkins, The Chosen LLC, 5&2 Studios, Come and See, 2024.

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

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

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