

The Chosen Season 3

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Introduction

Welcome to Season 3 of The Chosen. You finished Season 1 and 2 and I bet you can't wait to see what this season has in store for you! It is so amazing to watch the gospels come to life and this season has even more new stories for you to enjoy. You will experience these stories in a fun and exciting way as you watch God's words acted out. It will imprint a visual of the stories of Jesus in your mind that will change the way you read scripture and understand the bible. I am so excited you have decided to take The Chosen journey, you won't regret it!

This season we get experience the miracles of Jesus and the disciples. The disciples are sent on a two-by-two mission to spread the word of the kingdom of God and Jesus grants them authority to heal and cast out demons. Jesus performs many miracles himself in healing the woman who bled for 12 years, bringing Jarius' daughter back to life, curing leprosy, healing a deaf man, also a man with an infectious wound, etc. He also shares many parables, feeds 5,000 men and walks on water. Wow! Hold tight and grab your popcorn as this season brings so many stories to life!

I pray that in watching the show it creates a desire in your heart to get into your bible and read scripture. Now that you have SEEN the creators depiction of the gospels, READ it for yourself. Nothing can take the place of actually reading the bible. As you probably know, no movie/show is ever as good as the book and this is the case here too. Get into your bible and read the stories they didn't include in the show, come to your own conclusion on the similarities and differences. God gave us the bible so we will know HIS story and because he wanted us to read it. Make sure you still get into the word! This is not a replacement, but a supplemental resource adding to what you would read in the bible.

I hope you enjoy the show and most importantly I hope you enjoy this study as you get into the scripture supporting each episode. My prayer for you is that the bible comes to life before your eyes and you grow closer to God in spiritual wisdom and biblical curiosity.

Background

In Season 3 we get to experience the miracles of Jesus come to life. Jesus travels back home to his town of Nazareth. He goes to the region outside of the Decapolis and spends a lot of time in Capernaum. He not only heals people, but feeds the 5,000 and also walks on water. The events portrayed in this season are amazing to see come to life.

This season is going to cover scripture references out of the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Similar to the prior seasons, the show also does a great job pulling in some Old Testament references which bring you back into stories before Jesus' time. Revisiting these stories will help you see how it ties into the episode. I have included these Old Testament references and the main New Testament references from each episode for you below:

- Episode 1 –Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-7:28)
- Episode 2 –Jesus sends out the disciples two by two (Matthew 10:1-8, Mark 6:7-9, Luke 9:1-2)

- Episode 3 – Jesus reads in the synagogue of Nazareth, angers the people and they want to kill him, but he escapes. (Luke 4:16-30) Old Testament References Elijah and the Zarephath widow (1 Kings 17:1-24), Elijah heals Naaman of leprosy (2 Kings 5:1-27).
- Episode 4 – Jairus daughter gets sick (Luke 8:40-42) and we meet the woman who has bled for 12 years (Luke 8:43)
- Episode 5 – Jesus heals the woman who has bled for 12 years (Luke 8:44-48) and Jesus heals Jairus' daughter (Luke 8:49-56)
- Episode 6 – John the Baptist's disciples ask Jesus a question (Luke 7:18-23)
- Episode 7 – The parable of the banquet (Luke 14:16-24) and heals a deaf man with a speech impediment (Mark 7:31-37)
- Episode 8 – Jesus says multiple parables, faith like a mustard seed (Luke 17:6), the Sower (Matthew 13:1-9), two sons (Matthew 22:28-32), hidden treasure and pearls (Matthew:13:44-46) mustard seed and the leaven (Matthew 13:31-32). The feeding of the 5,000 (Matthew 14:13-21). Jesus walks on water (Matthew 14:22-33).

Episode 1: Homecoming

It was expected, but Jesus officially calls Judas Iscariot to be one of his disciples. With this, the twelve are now complete. Although the Gospels reveal that Judas will later betray Jesus, he is now among the chosen disciples, and the Sermon on the Mount has been delivered.

Scripture does not explicitly state that Judas asked to be a follower, nor is the interaction recorded when Jesus asked him to be a disciple. John 6:70-71 tells of Judas becoming a disciple and Jesus knew who he was. Read those verses. Do you think you could have had a relationship with someone you knew was going to betray you?

In the show we heard Jesus say a few highlights from the Sermon on the Mount. Read the full Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:1-7:28. Now let's dive into some of those highlights below:

Jesus mentioned the Golden Rule. Write the Golden Rule below. If you can't remember it, look up Matthew 7:12.

Did you know that Jesus' sermon has structure? He starts out with "Blessed are the" (Matthew 5:1-12) then moves into "You have heard that it was said" (Matthew 5:21-48) then into "Do not" (Matthew 6:16-34) and lastly more advice (Matthew 7). As you move through the sermon you will see this structure. In the last season we covered the "Bless are the" and "You are the (salt of the earth, light of the world)" so we will continue in Matthew 5:21-48. Each topic starts out with the same phrase: "You have heard that it was said" this is when he states a commandment or law and then adds to it.

Bible Reference

Jesus talked to the disciples and told them they were going to take a little break. They will separate and then come back together in a couple of days. Jesus prays over them before they go their separate ways.

Numbers 6:24-26 (ESV) ²⁴ *The Lord bless you and keep you;* ²⁵ *the Lord makes his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;* ²⁶ *the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

What a beautiful prayer! I imagine Jesus prayed scripture over his disciples, just like this. Go ahead and re-read the scripture and pray this for yourself and loved ones.

DID YOU KNOW??

This prayer and scripture verse was made into a song called "The Blessing" by Kari Jobe, Cody Carnes and Elevation Worship. They specifically state these words in the song. Search for it on your favorite place to listen to music and enjoy God's words through worship music.

See the chart below and fill in the blanks. I have done the first one for you. Follow the same format.

Topic	Commandment/ Law	Jesus says	Interpretation of Jesus's words
Anger (Matthew 5:21-26)	You shall not murder	Verse 22: Anyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment	Do not stay mad at anyone, forgive and work out problems.
Lust (Matthew 5:27-30)		Verse 28: Anyone who looks at a woman with lust has committed adultery	
Oaths (Matthew 5:33-37)	You shall not swear falsely	Verse 34:	Let your words be honest and do not swear at all.
Retaliation (Matthew 5:38-42)	An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth	Verse 39: Turn the other cheek	
Love Enemies (Matthew 5:43-48)		Verse 44: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.	

Jesus then moves into his “Do Nots”. In each of the verses below underline what Jesus says not to do.

Matthew 6:19-21 (ESV) – ¹⁹ “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:25-26 (ESV) – ²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds in the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Matthew 7:1-3 (ESV) – ¹ Judge not, that you be not judged. ² For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice that log that is in your own eye?

Which of the “Do Nots” resonates most with you and why? What do you need to remind yourself from these verses?

Jesus then switches to advice and he starts by saying we should seek him.

Matthew 6:33 (ESV) – *But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Matthew 7:7-8 (ESV) – *⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.”*

Write a prayer below seeking Jesus. He is the way, the truth and the life, we should seek him in all that we do. Ask for his guidance and seek his will for your life.

Jesus talks about building your house on the rock in Matthew 7:24-27. Underline the two foundations that each man built his house on. Circle the descriptor of the man who built his house on each.

Matthew 7:24-27 (ESV) – *²⁴ “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”*

Do you feel like your house is being built on rock or sand? What can you do to strengthen your foundation?

After the sermon the people are talking about the authority in which Jesus spoke. Read the scripture below and circle the reaction the crowds had.

- **Matthew 7:28-29 (ESV)** – *²⁸ And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, ²⁹ for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.*

In this episode we are introduced to a new character, Joanna. Read the scripture below and underline who she is and circle what she did for Jesus' ministry.

- **Luke 8:1-3 (ESV)** – *¹ Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, ² and also some*

women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³ and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

Two disciples feel convicted to visit designated homes in pursuit of reconciliation, inspired by the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount.

- Andrew goes to Mary's house and apologizes for saying awful things because he was scared. He took it out on her and she didn't deserve that. Andrew wanted to apologize and reconcile their relationship. The saddest part is Mary said she was never apologized to before.
- Matthew goes to his home, knocks on the door and finds himself face to face with his father. He expects to have the same interaction he had years before when his father said he had no son. His parents even sat Shiva because his father had disowned him. Luckily, his father's reaction is much different than it was in the past. He called him son! Another successful reconciliation.

Reflect back on the Sermon on the Mount scripture we covered above. Do Jesus' words convict you to take any action? If so, what can you commit to doing this week?

Episode 2: Two by Two

Crowds of people who heard the Sermon on the Mount headed to the outskirts of Capernaum to live in tents, anxiously awaiting another message from Jesus. This causes some unwanted attention from Rome.

Even the disciples started to notice the crowd that moved in and got nervous that Rome would think an army is forming under Jesus. However, Rome really just wanted to tax the people and get more income. Quintus decided to redraw the city lines to include the area the followers are in so he can tax them.

Meanwhile Simon and Eden are so happy they get to spend time together. They missed each other a lot! Simon even tells Eden that he wants to start a family. This makes Eden so happy, but she confesses that she was angry when Simon was gone. However, she kept on thinking about what Jesus told her before they left; “He sees her” and this helped her get through it. What does it mean to you that Jesus sees you? How does this comfort you?

Matthew talked to his mother and father after the end of the last episode. He explained that Jesus stated in the Sermon on the Mount that he should be reconciled before giving an offering. **Matthew 5: 23-24 (ESV)** – ²³ *So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you,* ²⁴ *leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.*

Matthew apologizes to his parents and then something unexpected happens, they apologize to him for rejecting him as their son. They tell him how they are proud that he is following Jesus and that Jesus chose Matthew. Not only does Matthew ask for forgiveness, but his parents do the same. You never know how our actions can impact others. Matthew went to his parents to apologize, and he ended up influencing them in such a way that they apologized to him as well. Do you have any unreconciled difference that you need to settle? If so, make a plan to talk to that person and also be ready to forgive them (even if they don’t say sorry).

Finally, the disciples come together to hear about Jesus’ next mission. Jesus explains that he is going to send them out two by two to share about the kingdom of God to their fellow Jews. They will be able to heal the sick, cast out demons and proclaim the kingdom of God to all of the Jews they meet. This is noted in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Read the scripture below and circle what is consistent in each passage.

- **Mark 6:7-9 (ESV)** – ⁷ And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff – no bread, no bag, no money in their belts – ⁹ but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics.
- **Luke 9:1-2 (ESV)** – ¹ And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal.
- **Matthew 10:1-8 (ESV)** – ¹ And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. (the names of the disciples are then listed verses 2-4) ⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷ And proclaim as you go, saying ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying, give without pay.”

At the end of the episode, Little James discusses his disability with Jesus directly. The fact that Little James struggles to walk and has a limp is his thorn in his flesh. Do you have a thorn in your flesh or know someone who has a disability, pain, continual discomfort? What is it?

Little James feels insecure about being sent out to heal others when he himself is not healed. Jesus explains that his story shows that he is patient in his suffering, that he still praises God even over the discomforts of his body. He doesn’t need healing to believe in Jesus.

Paul was another apostle who had an affliction that he prayed would be taken away from him, but it was not removed. Circle the reason Paul’s ailment was not healed.

2 Corinthians 12:7-9 (ESV) – ⁷ So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹ But he said to

Bible Reference

The disciples state Psalm 3 at the end of the episode because they are fearful of the mission Jesus gave them. Read it below:

Psalm 3 (ESV) ¹ O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; ² many are saying of my soul, “There is no salvation for him in God.” Selah ³ but you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. ⁴ I cried aloud to the Lord, and he answered me from his holy hill. Selah ⁵ I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the Lord sustained me. ⁶ I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. ⁷ Arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked. ⁸ Salvation belongs to the Lord; your blessing be on your people! Selah

DID YOU KNOW??

This psalm was written by David when he fled from his son Absalom who was trying to kill him.

Selah appears 71 times in the book of Psalms and 3 times in the book of Habakkuk. It means to praise or to lift up. It has also meant to pause or to reflect. When it appears in Psalm the musician would pause and take a breath. ¹ Fun fact, Forrest Frank has a song called Selah too!

me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Does listening to Jesus’ explanation and Paul’s explanation make sense why God allows us to have a thorn in our flesh? Reflect on this and your current thorn in your flesh.

Jesus also explains that although Little James is suffering right now, that pain is temporary. In heaven we will not have any pain. Jesus quotes **Isaiah 35:6 (ESV)** – *Then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.*

How does this make you feel knowing that your suffering is temporary. Do you look forward to heaven someday?

*Jesus quotes Job when talking with Little James. **Job 1:21 (ESV)** – And he said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.”*

Episode 3: Physician, Heal Yourself

As the disciples are out on their two-by-two mission to share about the Kingdom of God, Jesus heads to his hometown of Nazareth. The episode starts out with a flashback of Jesus as a toddler. Then later in the episode, we also see Jesus as a boy with his dad. The flashbacks end and present day, Jesus is with his mother and visits with his friends Lazarus, Mary and Martha. The Jewish new year called Rosh Hashanah is going on while Jesus is back in Nazareth.

This is the first time that we meet Lazarus, Mary and Martha. Read the scripture below and circle the relationship they have to one another. Underline how Jesus feels about them.

John 11:1-3 (ESV) – ¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.”

The Rosh Hashanah celebration is a day of prayer, reflection and repentance and marks the start of a 10-day repentance ending with Yom Kippur on the 10th day. This is a celebration of the creation of Adam and Eve and is seen as the anniversary of the crowning of God as King of the Universe. Sweet foods like apples dipped in honey, pomegranates and challah are typically eaten during this celebration. There is usually a special liturgy focusing on God’s kingship, judgment and remembrance. Since this holiday is focused on repentance, let’s reflect below on anything that you would like to repent of.

Pray to God and hear for his judgment on your choices/ sin. Write what comes to mind below.

Write a prayer to God and seek forgiveness for these sins.

Resolve to improve in these areas for the future and live in accordance with God’s will.

Many theologians believe that Joseph passed away at some point before or during Jesus’ ministry started. He is not noted to be at the crucifixion with Mary or anywhere in the bible after Jesus was lost in Jerusalem as a teen. Did you also notice James and Jude, Jesus’ brothers were missing? They did not believe in Jesus as the Messiah during his lifetime.

Lastly, in your prayer thank God for your faith and his mercy and grace in your life.

Jesus is asked to give the reading at his local synagogue. This is found in Luke 4:16-27. Everything is straight out of scripture, check it out below!

Luke 4:16-21 (ESV) – ¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸ “The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all the in synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

- The scripture Jesus read came out of Isaiah 61:1.

Jesus starts off strong with the reading. Circle below how the crowd felt.

Luke 4:22-23 (ESV) - ²² And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³ And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Physician, heal yourself.” What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.”

The people of Nazareth want to see a sign like Jesus did in Capernaum. It isn’t enough for them to believe, they are asking for eye-witness IRL in real life proof. Things start to take a turn. Underline what Jesus says about being accepted in his hometown.

Luke 4:24-27 (ESV) - ²⁴ And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵ But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over the land, ²⁶ and Elijah was sent to none of them but to Zarephath, in

Bible Reference

Jesus references two gentiles, the Zarephath widow and leper Naaman.

1 Kings 17:1-24 (ESV) ...⁸ Then the word of the Lord came to him, ⁹ Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” ¹⁰ So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” ¹¹ And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” ¹² And she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” ¹³ And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear, go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴ For thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth.’” ¹⁵ And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days.

the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷ And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian."

The people did not like what Jesus said to them! See the side panel for more information about Elijah and Elisha.

Luke 4:28-30 (ESV) – *²⁸ When they heard these things, all the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹ And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰ But passing through their midst, he went away.*

Wow, looked like a close call where Jesus could have been killed because the people thought he was a false prophet. What do you notice about verse 30 above? What happened to Jesus?

Just like in the show, Jesus just passed through the people. God protected him. It was not part of God's plan for Jesus to be put to death at this time and in his hometown. There was a lot more for Jesus to do and a different plan that God had in store for him. Write a short prayer thanking God for his protection over us and sticking to his plan for our lives.

The episode ends with Jesus telling Mary and Lazarus that there is no turning back now. He suggests that Mary stays with Lazarus and his sisters. He has the bit and bridle out that was given to him by his father and Jesus notes that SOON enough he will need it. Mary seems to know this has further meaning. More to come in future seasons on this gift from his father, but note this is not from scripture.

Bible Reference

Jesus also referred to the leper Naaman.

2 Kings 5:1-27 (ESV) ...⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger to him saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman was angry and went away saying, "Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper... ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

DID YOU KNOW??

Both of these examples include gentiles who were blessed by the Lord over Jews. God chose to feed the gentile widow over the other Jews that were starving from the famine. God also chose to heal the gentile leper, Naaman over other Jews who were suffering from leprosy. This was the point that Jesus was making by bringing up these two Old Testament stories.

Episode 4: Clean, Part 1

The episode starts out with clips of the disciples from their two-by-two missionary journey. They healed people, cast out demons, preached and taught the people the Lord's prayer during their journey. Each disciple was affected differently from their experience.

Have you ever gone on a mission trip? If not, would you consider going on one? If so, reflect on the experience and what you took from it below.

The disciples share their stories from the missionary trip. Many of them said that they felt they were given power and authority to heal and cast out demons, but they didn't have understanding. They felt that Jesus was working through them. Have you experienced God calling you to do or say something that you didn't understand, but you knew God was working through you? Reflect below.

Eden meets a woman named Veronica who tells her about a secret water spring that they can get water and wash their clothes. Circle below what we know about this woman from scripture.

- **Luke 8:43 (ESV)** – *And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all of her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone.*

After reading the side panel bible reference from Leviticus, what do you think her life was like for twelve years?

When Veronica delivers the clean clothes to her customer, he spots blood and yells "unclean" at her. This is just one small example of

Bible Reference

The disciples were attending the synagogue when the Rabbi was reading out of Leviticus about uncleanness of discharge and required washing rituals.

Leviticus 15:1-33 (ESV) ...² *Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, 'When any man has discharge from his body, his discharge is unclean. ³ And this is the law of his uncleanness for a discharge; whether his body runs with discharge, or his body is blocked up by discharge, it is his uncleanness'...* ⁷ *And whoever touches the body of the one with the discharge shall wash his clothes and bathe himself in water and be unclean until the evening....* ¹³ *And when the one with discharge is cleansed of his discharge, then he shall count for himself seven days for this cleansing, and wash his clothes. And he shall bathe his body in fresh water and shall be clean.*

¹⁹ *"When a woman has a discharge, and the discharge in her body is blood, she shall be in her menstrual impurity for seven days, and whoever touches her shall be unclean until evening."....*

²⁵ *"If a woman has a discharge of blood for many days, not at the time of her menstrual impurity, or if she has a discharge beyond the time of her impurity, all the days of the discharge she shall continue in uncleanness. As in the days of her impurity, she shall be unclean.*

what her 12 years were like. Do you know anyone who has been rejected or considered an outcast? What can you do to show that person Jesus? Veronica didn't give up hope even after none of the doctors could heal her. How can you share hope with someone else?

Jairus and Yussif talk about Jesus as they received a request from Shumel for details from the Sermon on the Mount. Jairus admits to reading the letters about Jesus that Yussif shared with him. Jairus said he believes Jesus could be more than a Rabbi and prophet. He believes in Jesus!

Read the scripture below about Jairus' and his daughter. Circle what Jairus' occupation was and underline what was happening to his daughter.

- **Luke 8:40-42 (ESV)** – ⁴⁰ Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him, ⁴¹ And there came a man names Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at Jesus' feet, he implored him to come to his house, ⁴² for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As Jesus went the people pressed around him.

Jairus asks Yussif after his daughter was sick, if God is punishing him for believing in Jesus. We know that God does not punish us. Jairus is seeing the situation of his daughter being sick from one point of view and a short-sighted view at that. More to come in the next episode on what God will do for Jairus because of his belief and how more is going on than he knows. God is definitely not punishing him!

Simon is having trouble with his marriage. He decides to go for a walk and runs into Gaius. Simon says that he is at an impasse. A roadblock that he can't undo what he did in the past. Simon doesn't know why Eden is upset, but he also hasn't really asked her. You could say we are all in an impasse. No one can go back to the past and undo what we have done. The only thing that we can do is ask for forgiveness. Gaius tell Simon to say "You're right, I am sorry." We know it is always best to ask for forgiveness. We all mess up and sin, but through repentance we move past the impasse and toward redemption. Use the space below to ask for forgiveness for any impasse's you may find yourself in.

Zebedee asks for Mary and Tamar's honest opinion on his olive oil. He acknowledges that flattery will only do harm. Proverbs 28:23 (ESV) - Whoever rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than he who flatters with his tongue.

Episode 5: Clean, Part 2

Jesus is back and ready to do some healing! He is approached by Jairus to heal his twelve-year-old daughter, but gets stopped on the way by the strong-believing woman who is healed of her bleeding of twelve years. Did you notice how the number 12 is in both of these healing stories?

Jairus let's Yussif know that his daughter is not doing well at all, she is dying and the doctors can't help her. He wants to see if Jesus can heal her and Yussif helps him find Jesus. Meanwhile Nathaniel and Thaddeaus stumble across the woman who has been bleeding for twelve years. She wants to find Jesus because she believes he can heal her. They offer to help her get to Jesus. Both of these people have strong faith in who Jesus is and what he can do.

Jesus comes back from a fast that he was doing and enjoys Eden's bread and food. Read below and underline what the disciples ask Jesus.

- **Matthew 9:14-15 (ESV)** – ¹⁴ Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁵ And Jesus said to them, "Can the wedding guests mourn as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast."

In the show Jesus asked the disciples what the point of fasting is. The point was that they would pray that the Messiah would come. Jesus explains that since he is here, they do not need to fast, but there will come a time when he will not be with them and they should fast.

Fasting isn't a very popular practice in this day and age. For whatever reason a lot of people don't fast, but this is something that we are called to do. Fasting is giving up something, usually food, and focusing on prayer. You are abstaining from something you desire and focusing your heart on God. Typically fasting is from sunup to sundown and many people give up different things during their fast, some social media, food, drinks, etc. Have you ever fasted? If not, will you consider fasting?

Jesus continues talking about the kingdom of God in the following verses. Read the passage below.

- **Matthew 9:16-17 (ESV)** – ¹⁶ No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch tears away from the garment, and a worse tear is made. ¹⁷ Neither is new wine put into old wineskins, if it is, the skins burst and the wine is spilled and the skins are destroyed. But new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved."

Jesus explains all of this about the old and the new to explain that now that the Messiah is here, the old Jewish laws will not fit. He will not fit in the old framework; he is here to present a new framework for the people separate from the old Jewish laws. How does this make you feel? Reflect on this below.

Jairus and Yussif enter the house and interrupt Jesus. Jairus explains that his daughter is dying and he believes Jesus can heal her. Circle what Jairus asks of Jesus in the passage below.

- **Luke 8:40-42 (ESV)** – ⁴⁰ Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him, ⁴¹ And there came a man names Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at Jesus' feet, he implored him to come to his house, ⁴² for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As Jesus went the people pressed around him.

As Jesus left to go to Jairus' home, verse 42 says "the people pressed around him." The people were so excited to see Jesus and created a huge crowd around him. Circle from the verse below what the woman who was bleeding touched on Jesus.

- **Luke 8:44 (ESV)** – She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment and immediately her discharge of blood ceased.

Her faith was so strong that she knew if she could only touch the fringe of his garment, she would be healed. She was considered unclean for 12 years and was not permitted to touch anyone. So, she didn't want to touch Jesus' skin, she knew if she could only touch the absolute bottom of his garment, she would be healed. Her faith is so strong that she knew just the slightest touch would heal her. Do you feel like you have faith this strong?

- **Luke 8:45-47 (ESV)** - ⁴⁵ And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!" ⁴⁶ But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out of me." ⁴⁷ And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed.

Circle what Jesus calls the woman in the passage below.

- **Luke 8:48 (ESV)** – And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

In the show Jesus not only said this to her, but he touched her face. He wanted to touch her. She has gone 12 years with no one wanting to be near her, let alone touch her. Can you imagine 12 years of no hugs, no kisses? And now the Messiah has healed you and touched you. He also calls her daughter. Her own father and mother have rejected her and now the Son of God is calling her daughter. He calls you that too. We are the sons and daughters of God. How do you think this made the woman feel? How does this make you feel? Does this give you a different perspective on your relationship with God?

They finally get to Jairus' house, but what are they told? Circle what they are told from the passage below.

- **Luke 8:49 (ESV)** – *While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher anymore,"*

Underline Jesus' response in the below passages.

- **Luke 8:50-52 (ESV)** – *⁵⁰ But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear, only believe, and she will be well." ⁵¹ And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. ⁵² And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, "Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping."*

Jesus says, "Do not fear". He also says, "only believe". How many times do we allow our fear to diminish our belief? Fear is not of God; it is of the devil. The devil wants us to fear and doubt so we don't believe in the power of God. Jesus knew that Jairus had strong belief and even though his daughter had died, he only needed to believe and Jesus would come through. Is there any fear that you are allowing to diminish your belief in Jesus? Reflect below and pray that God will give help you not to fear and doubt.

Underline below what Jesus said that brought life back to her.

- *⁵³ And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. ⁵⁴ But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child arise." ⁵⁵ And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given to her to eat. ⁵⁶ And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.*

I loved how the episode ended with such fun and joy as the disciples are swimming and playing in the water. The woman who was bleeding went down to the fresh water to perform her cleansing ritual, and Jesus and the disciples see her there. Since they came into contact with her, they are required to perform the ritual too, but I think they are just having fun! I imagine with a group of guys, Jesus had fun with them and had moments like this of joy and playing around.

Simon quotes Jeremiah when talking with Gaius. Jeremiah 2:13 (ESV) – for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

Episode 6: Intensity in Tent City

The episode starts out with Pontus Pilate's wife having a bad dream about Jesus and a snake. This feels like foreshadowing where Pilate's wife shares about her dream when Jesus is on trial before the crucifixion. Circle how Pilate's wife has suffered in the verse below:

- **Matthew 27:19 (ESV)** – *Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream."*

The tension between Mary and Tamar has been building over the past few episodes, and they finally talk it through. Mary believes Tamar could show more humility, describing her as bold, loud, and entitled. While those traits may have helped Tamar get where she is, humility is something we are all called to practice. What can you do to be humbler in your interactions?

Listed below is scripture about humility, put a star next to the verse that resonates with you the most. Consider committing it to memory:

- **James 4:10 (ESV)** – *Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.*
- **Philippians 2:3 (ESV)** – *Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.*
- **Proverbs 22:4 (ESV)** – *The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life.*
- **1 Peter 5:5 (ESV)** – *Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."*
- **Mathew 23:12 (ESV)** – *Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.*

After Mary explains more and talks with Tamar, it becomes clear that Mary isn't fully embracing Jesus' forgiveness. She is holding on to sin, regret, and guilt of her past. She is holding onto lies that she is not worthy. Tamar challenges her that she needs to move forward, be forgiven and choose not to hold on to her past. Is there anything that you are holding on to? Do you feel truly free from your sin, forgiven and ready to move forward, away from your past? Reflect below.

As the disciples are sharpening their weapons, Simon quotes Proverbs. Did you notice the irony? Proverbs 27:17 (ESV) – Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

Listed below is scripture about forgiveness, put a star next to the verse that resonates with you the most. Consider committing it to memory:

- **Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)** – *Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*
- **Colossians 3:13 (ESV)** – *Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.*
- **Luke 7:47 (ESV)** – *Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven – for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little.*
- **Mark 11:25 (ESV)** – *And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.*

Mary judged Tamar's strength against her weakness. What does this mean to you?

We all have weaknesses and unfortunately it then makes other people's strengths more noticeable where we are weak. It can create envy and resentment in your heart. Have you experienced this in the past? What do you think the dangers are of comparison?

All the characters come together as Jesus arrives and starts to heal people. First, Zee is approached by the Zealots who were there to assassinate him, and he tells them that the Messiah is here. He explains that he is following Jesus, the one they have all been waiting for. Second, Gaius, who is told by Quintis to break up the tent city, starts to help them. He shows kindness and respect to the people. Third, two of John the Baptist's disciples came to Jesus with a question. All three groups of people are witnessing Jesus perform miracles. Underline below what Jesus did and what the two disciples of John the Baptist witnessed.

- **Luke 7:21-23 (ESV)** – *²¹ In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²² And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."*

Circle below the question that John the Baptist sent his two disciples to ask Jesus.

- **Luke 7:18-20 (ESV)** - *.....²⁰ And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'"*

What is your reaction to this question? Reflect on where John is currently being held, what his life purpose is and his relationship to Jesus. How would you take this question if you were Jesus?

Jesus responds, not with anger, but with proof. Re-read verses 21-23 above. He proves to John's disciples that he is indeed the Messiah. Even though John is not being patient, Jesus provides a response. John is questioning Jesus, and Jesus responds with miracles, proof. If John the Baptist questions Jesus, it is okay for us to as well. If you have doubts or questions, bring them to God. Ask your questions to fellow believers, look up answers from trusted resources. I really like Gotquestions.org, as they have strong biblical answers to most common faith questions.

- **Luke 7:33-34 (ESV)** – ³³ For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' ³⁴ The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'

The people are just not satisfied! John the Baptist comes, and the people say he has a demon; Jesus comes and they call him a glutton and drunkard. There is no contentment or satisfaction in who God provides. How often are we not content or satisfied? The world tells us we should have more, to keep striving for the best. Maybe what we have is sufficient, it just isn't exactly what we wanted, it is actually better. Think of a time when you were provided for, but it wasn't what you wanted, but it was what you needed. Thank God that he provides and ask him to give you more contentment in your life.

Below is scripture about contentment, put a star next to the verse that resonates with you the most. Consider committing it to memory:

- **Hebrews 13:5 (ESV)** – *Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."*
- **1 Timothy 6:6 (ESV)** – *But godliness with contentment is great gain.*
- **Proverbs 19:23 (ESV)** – *The fear of the Lord leads to life, and whoever has it rests satisfied; he will not be visited by harm.*
- **Philippians 4:19 (ESV)** – *And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*

Old Testament Prophets: Isaiah 40:3 (ESV) – A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God." and Malachi 3:1 (ESV) – Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me... point to John the Baptist paving the way for the Messiah.

Episode 7: Ears to Hear

The episode opens up with people celebrating a Jewish holiday called Purim, but not everyone is happy. Simon is very upset about Eden's miscarriage and Andrew and Philip are back from the Decapolis with bad news.

Andrew and Phillip went to the Decapolis to help at Leander's request, but they may have made things worse. While they were there, they tell the parable of the Great Banquet. This account of Andrew and Philip preaching the parable is not in scripture, but the parable is. Read through the parable below:

- **Luke 14:16-24 (ESV)** – ¹⁶ But he (Jesus) said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. ¹⁷ And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come for everything is now ready.’ ¹⁸ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ ¹⁹ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ ²⁰ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ ²¹ So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ ²² And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ ²³ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. ²⁴ For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

The Jews were the invited guests. Why do you think they were offended?

The gentiles were the poor, crippled, blind, lame and people of the highways and hedges. Why do you think they were offended?

Bible Reference

The people are celebrating a Jewish holiday called the Festival of Purim. This is explained in the book of Esther.

Esther 9:20-22 (ESV) – ²⁰ And Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, ²¹ obliging them to keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same, year by year, ²² as the days on which the Jews got relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow in gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and gifts to the poor.

DID YOU KNOW??

All the events that take place in the story of Esther lead to this wonderful holiday? Through Esther's obedience, faith and wisdom/discernment she was able to bring justice to her people, the Jews and save the entire Jewish race from being killed. Read the book of Esther for the entire story.

The Jews were upset because the gentiles were invited. The gentiles were upset because they look like second-class people, not originally invited. We all probably agree, this was not the best parable to tell to these groups of people, but Jesus does not reprimand Andrew and Philip for the mess they made. Instead, he tells them this is part of the process, and they need to pick themselves up and move forward. So, Jesus decides to take the disciples to the Decapolis. John stays back though to wait for Simon so they can head there together. Although John doesn't want to wait for Simon, Jesus says that it is when others are in pain that they need help.

Matthew talks to Mary after she finds the prayer tassels hidden in his home. He tells her a story that is not stated in scripture about an old man who gave him those tassels. The old man took on the debt of his family so the Romans could not go after them or oppress them for their outstanding debt. He man was therefore, going to be arrested and put in a prison camp for the rest of his life. The man was sacrificing himself for his family. He wanted to give Matthew something that the man prized more valuable than gold and rubies, his prayer tassels. The prayer tassels represented the power of God, the power of prayer, and the importance of faith. How has prayer impacted your life?

I challenge you, identify something that you see often and can be a reminder to pray. It could be a bracelet, a book that you are reading, a magnet on the refrigerator. Choose something that you see throughout the day and use it as a reminder to pray. Every time you see that object, say a quick prayer to God. The most important thing for spiritual growth and a relationship with Jesus it to talk to him through prayer.

The old man who talked to Matthew references that he is of the tribe of Benjamin, the youngest of Jacob's sons. Benjamin's mom was Rachel who died after childbirth, giving Benjamin the name meaning "Son of my sorrow". Which Jacob renamed to "Son of my right hand".

Everyone had noticed that something was up with Simon. He seems disconnected, upset, and distant. However, Jesus told John that the success of the trip depends on Simon. Simon finally opens up to John and tells him what is going on. While he was away with Jesus, Eden had a miscarriage and so much damage was done that she may never have a child. Miscarriages are something that happen in our world every day and unfortunately are relatively common. If you have experienced a miscarriage, I am so sorry you went through that. We don't know why these things happen but know that you are not alone through it. God is always with you.

Simon is angry, he blames Jesus and says, “How could he let something like this happen”? Do you feel this way about God right now? It’s okay to get angry with God, if you feel like you are upset about something, take it to God now! Write your frustrations below and pray for God to help you.

John explains that Jesus never said it would be easy, life would not be perfect. He actually said the opposite. How does this statement make you feel? Since our views are so counter-cultural we are going to see and feel opposed. How have you seen this played out in your life?

Simon feels he should have just been a fisherman, but John points out it could have still happened and then he wouldn’t have anyone to turn to. That’s true for us, bad things will happen, but you know what, we have someone to turn to. We have God with us always. Write a prayer thanking God that he is always with you.

Note: The bible does not state that Peter and his wife had a miscarriage. This was something that was added by the creators of The Chosen to relate to the audience. The bible is silent to whether Peter had children and does not mention any miscarriages.

When Jesus was with the disciples he performed a miracle. Read the scripture below and circle the ailment the person had that Jesus healed. Put a star next to the region he performed this miracle.

- **Mark 7:31-37 (ESV)** – ³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

After Jesus performed the miracle, different religious leaders started to congregate and crowds started to form. Something big is brewing, can’t wait to see what is in store for us in the last episode of this season!

Matthew points out that Jesus has gentiles in his family tree. He referenced Rahab and Ruth. Refer to Joshua 2 for the story of Rahab and the book of Ruth for more details about the women.

Episode 8: Sustenance

This episode picks up at the Decapolis where Jesus is trying to bring unity to the different leaders who are fighting about their religious concerns. Jesus starts by telling the parable of the mustard seed. Read the parable below and circle what is causing the tree to move.

- **Luke 17:6 (ESV)** – *And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and be planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.”*

Jesus is then approached by a man with an infected, broken leg. Jesus heals him in front of all of them. As Jesus is talking, crowds are starting to form. Jesus tells a few more parables to the crowd.

- **Matthew 13:1-9 (ESV)**.... ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear.”

Using the chart below and the explanation of the parable in Matthew 13:18-23, fill in the blanks below:

Type of Soil	What happened?	What does this mean?
Footpath		Hear the message only to have Satan come and take it away
Shallow soil with underlying rock	Plant wilted under the sun since it didn't have deep roots	
	Thorns choked out the tender plants and produced no grain	Hear the message but too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of life, lure of wealth, no fruit is produced.
Fertile soil		Hear God's message, follow it and produce a harvest of much more than has been planted.

What do you think each soil looks like practically?

Type of Soil	What does this look like in today's world?	What should they do instead?
Footpath		
Shallow soil with underlying rock		
Soil with thorns		
Fertile soil		

As you can see from the parable above, the soil in which the plant is in will cultivate different outcomes. We need to have good, fertile soil. The other types of ground will not create a foundation in which a thriving plant can grow.

The crowds are getting tired and hungry. Many of them sleep in the field overnight, but it is not lost on the disciples that there is a lack of food to feed this many people. The next morning Jesus continues to teach and talked about the parable of the two sons. Read it below and underline each son's response and circle what he actually did.

- Matthew 21:28-32 (ESV)** – ²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ And he answered, ‘I will not.’ But afterwards he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go sir’ but did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.

Read the parable of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great value below. Circle the two things each man does upon finding the treasure and the pearl.

- Matthew 13:44-46 (ESV)n-** ⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” ⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

The treasure and pearl are the kingdom of heaven. These men are all in. They sell everything and buy the kingdom of heaven. Do you feel like you are all in? What do you need to do to be all in?

Next Jesus tells another parable about the mustard seed. As he is telling this parable, the disciples are gathering food but only come up with 5 barley loaves and 2 fish. Read the parable below and underline what happens to the mustard seed.

- **Matthew 13:31-32 (ESV)** ³¹ He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³² It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

As you can see, the small seed, which represents faith, grew to be so large! Not only was the plant large, but it provided for the birds and their future babies in the nests. Can you imagine the impact your faith is going to have on the people around you? You can impact not only yourself, but others and future generations. Write a prayer below asking God to bless your legacy and the impact you can have on others.

What can you do today to use that mustard seed amount of faith to impact others?

The disciples bring the 5 barley loaves and 2 fish to Jesus. He tells them to organize the people into groups of 50/100 and give them food from the baskets. Read the account of this from Matthew below and circle the number of loaves and fish they started with, put a star next to how many people they fed.

- **Matthew 14:13-21 (ESV)** ¹⁵ Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ But Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They said to him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

There is another account of Jesus feeding crowds, the 4,000. (Matthew 15:32-39, Mark 8:1-10) The feeding of 5,000 took place near Bethsaida, close to the sea of Galilee. The feeding of the 4,000 took place in the region around the Decapolis. The creators combined the accounts.

This is same account recorded in the other gospels as well. Look up the scripture references below:

- Mark 6:32-44 – references there were twelve baskets full of broken pieces of the fish/ bread
- Luke 9:10-17
- John 6:1-15 - references a boy giving them five barley loaves and two fish

After the miraculous feeding of the 5,000, Jesus decides to stay back, and the disciples decide to take a boat across the river as it would be faster than walking. Circle what Jesus decided to do below:

- **Matthew 14:22-23 (ESV)** – ²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone.

A storm started and the disciples were having a terrible time in the boat battling the storm. Then something came upon them. Circle what they thought it was.

- **Matthew 14:24-26 (ESV)** – ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear.

Underline below what Simon Peter did after Jesus said “Come”.

- **Matthew 14:27-29 (ESV)** – ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” ²⁸ And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus.

Circle what caused Simon Peter to sink in the verses below:

- **Matthew 14:30-31 (ESV)** – ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why do you doubt?”

How many times have you let fear stop you? Has fear held you back in your faith? Reflect below on what fears you have and how you can overcome them to grow in your spiritual journey.

Jesus displayed his power in the following verses. Circle what stopped and underline the disciple’s response.

- **Matthew 14:32-33 (ESV)** – ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

While Simon is away with Jesus at the area outside of the Decapolis, Eden is approached by Mary, Zebedee and his wife to find out what is going on between her and Simon. Zebedee and his wife ask her if they are having marriage problems. An important support system to have in your marriage is fellow believers who support you and your spouse. Do you have marriage mentors or other believers who support your marriage? If so, list them below. If not, consider seeking out a couple who can be this for you.

Eden decides to go to the synagogue and go through the purification steps with Rabbi Yussif. As she goes through these steps she is praying for Simon. They are praying through Psalm 77. In the appendix are a couple reflection questions as you read through Psalm 77.

At the end of the episode, we see scenes of John the Baptist, Ramah, Thomas, Giaus and his son while Psalm 77 is being read. The episode ends with Simon returning to Eden and embracing her. It seems they are finally in a good spot, and Simon has worked through his anger.

That's a wrap on the season! It was so good, and there is only more of Jesus' story to come in the next one. I hope you enjoyed seeing scripture come to life and look forward to diving into Season 4 next!

The account of Jesus walking on water is also recorded in Mark 6:45-52 and John 6:16-21, but both Mark and John do not mention Peter walking on the water.

Appendix - Bonus Psalm Reflection

The episode started and ended with a Psalm being read to King David. This Psalm was written by Asaph. The Psalm is quoted throughout the episode. Read Psalm 77 below:

Psalm 77:1-8 (ESV) - ¹ I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, and he will hear me. ² In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted. ³ When I remember God, I moan; when I meditate, my spirit faints.

Selah

⁴ You hold my eyelids open; I am so troubled that I cannot speak. ⁵ I consider the days of old, the years long ago. ⁶ I said, "Let me remember my song in the night; let me meditate in my heart." Then my spirit made a diligent search: ⁷ "Will the Lord spurn forever, and never again be favorable? ⁸ Has his steadfast love forever ceased? Are his promises at an end for all time? ⁸ Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion?"

Selah

The Psalmist is very angry and upset with God. This is exactly how Peter felt in the show. Have you felt upset with God, disappointed, angry? If you are feeling that way now, present your frustrations to the Lord and let him know. He cares when you are happy, he cares when you are angry.

Psalm 77:10-20 (ESV) - ¹⁰ Then I said, "I will appeal to this, to the years of the right hand of the Most High." ¹¹ I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old. ¹² I wonder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds. ¹³ Your way, O God is holy. What god is great like our God? ¹⁴ You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the peoples. ¹⁵ You with your arm redeemed your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph.

Selah

¹⁶ When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; indeed, the deep trembled. ¹⁷ The clouds poured out water, the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side. ¹⁸ The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lighted up the world, the earth trembled and shook. ¹⁹ Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen. ²⁰ You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

When you are feeling angry, frustrated, upset, remember all God has done for you. Reflect below on the blessings God has given you and how he has always provided for you.

Appendix - References

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

The Chosen Season 3. Directed by Dallas Jenkins, 5&2 Studios, 2022.

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

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

Other commentary was taken from the below source:

1. Got questions.org "What does selah mean in the bible?" January 4, 2022.

For additional commentary on this study and many others visit **BiblicalRewind.org**