

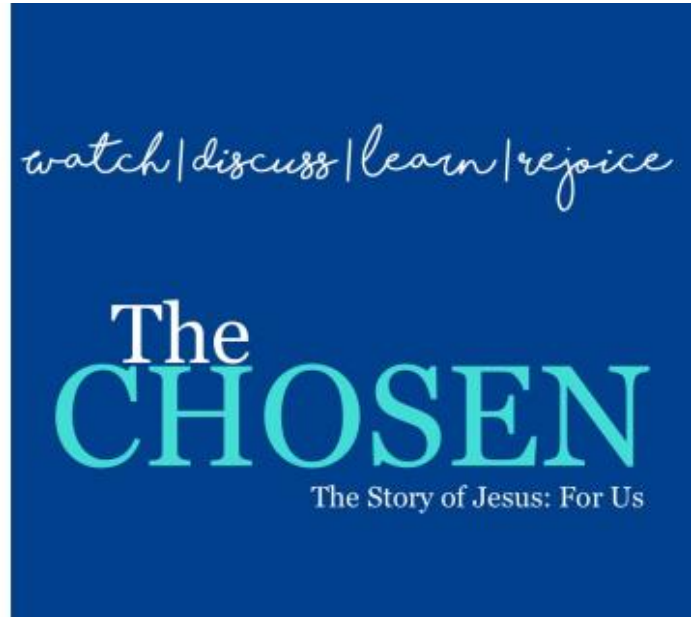
Group Guide



For listening, discussion & reflection



EPISODE 6- Indescribable Compassion



EPISODE 6

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

- ▶ Matthew 8:1-14
- ▶ Luke 12 : 36-48
- ▶ Luke 18: 1-14
- ▶ Mark 2:1-12
- ▶ Matthew 6:1-18

CHARACTERS

Jesus, Mary Magdalene, Nicodemus, Simon Peter, Andrew, Tamar, The Leper, James, John, The Paralytic

QUICK SUMMARY

In this episode of the greatest adventure in history, Jesus' followers are asking questions, learning about their charismatic rabbi, slowly gaining faith, and witnessing some very incredible things! Their excitement is growing; people are paying attention. Jesus heals and urges people to remember to be vigilant with their faith,

remembering that no one person is greater than any other. We are all God's beloved creation. While the following of Jesus is growing, His enemies are also growing in number.

After reading through the summary, watch this episode, then work through the following reflection questions:

CONVERSATION STARTER

Who were you and what were you like before you started following Jesus?

The Big Question:

Which part of this episode was the most different from how you imagined it being after reading the passage in Scripture?

Bring to Group:

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

EPISODE 6 QUESTIONS

1. Who would you equate with a tax collector today? A Roman soldier? A Jewish citizen?
2. Leprosy is a corruptive, contagious disease of the body, crippling & corroding the flesh from within, and leading the person to isolation and, ultimately, to a slow and miserable death. Why do you think Sin and habits of sin can so often be compared to "leprosy" of the soul?
3. How can you connect with people in your life who aren't part of the "in" crowd, as Jesus did?
4. There was a LOT of compassion emphasized in this episode. From not giving publicly to the healing of a leper. How did Jesus preach about and show compassion? Do you think there is a difference between compassion, giving, empathy and good will?
5. The "leper" in this episode demonstrated a bold faith. What is holding you back from having a faith like his?
6. What have you seen during your spiritual journey that keeps you walking with Jesus?
7. In the episode Peter tries to drive Matthew away because he doesn't like him. How do you relate to other Christians who are very different from you? Are you able to show Christians different from you that you are "for" them?
8. How open are you to new understandings of God? When was a time you thought one way about God and then came to a new or different understanding about Him?

9. In the episode, the children asked Matthew if he was lost and he said, "Yes." What do you think he meant? When was a time you felt lost?

PERSONAL NEXT STEPS

Renew and Refresh – This week read Mark 2:1-12; Matthew 8:1-4; Luke 12:36-48; Matthew 6:1-18

Self-Check

- o Do you pull back from people with certain types of brokenness? How can you minister to them if you remove yourself from them?
- o Do you feel improper if you talk to God in a casual or less formal way? Do you think being more formal causes God to respond better?

Go Forth – If these episodes have inspired you to want to draw closer to God, can you think of someone who might feel the same way after watching them?

Pray – Thank your heavenly Father for accepting and loving us even with all of our brokenness.

QUOTES

Matthew: *"They don't believe what I saw, but I do. I need to know, am I deceived?"*

Nicodemus: *"If God did something that you felt contradicted the Torah, would you tell him to get back in that box you have carved for him, or would you question your interpretation of the Torah?"*