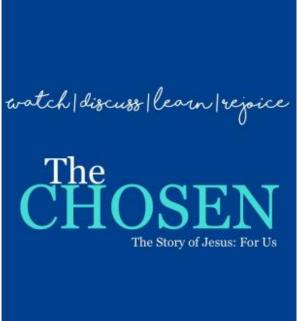
Group Guide



For listening, discussion & reflection



S2 EPISODE 3- Matthew 4:24



EPISODE 3

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

- ► Matthew 4:24 ► Matthew 4:18-25
- ► Zechariah 4:1-14 ► Psalm 139:8

CHARACTERS

Jesus, Mary, the disciples, especially Matthew, Simon

QUICK SUMMARY

A long, exhausting day turns into night as the disciples help Jesus deal with a large crowd hoping to be healed. Around the campfire, over dinner, the group tried to get to know each other better. But tensions erupt.

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

CONVERSATION STARTER

If someone were to have told you when you were younger you would be a student of the Messiah and help Him on His mission, what would you have said to them?

TheBigQuestion:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? Which character, event or line stood out to you most? Why?

Bring to Group:

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

EPISODE 3 QUESTIONS

- 1. This is a powerful and even uncomfortable episode. It's unique in the series so far in that it captures an evening of ordinary conversation among the disciples. What did you learn about the disciples, and what do you think the producers were trying to communicate?
- 2. How has your belief been impacted when Jesus hasn't done what you wanted? How do we know when we're following Jesus for who He is and not for what He can do for us?
- 3. How do you feel about Simon's treatment of Matthew? How powerful is it that Simon says he can't forgive him for what he's done, when you know Simon will need great forgiveness from Jesus for a later betrayal?
- 4. Jesus returned to camp exhausted from ministry. His condition stunned the disciples into silence. Why?
- 5. Mary washed Jesus' feet. Where does scripture record Jesus washing someone's feet and when?
- 6. In the episode Mary said Jesus wasn't waiting for His followers to become holy. He came because they couldn't be holy without Him. What does that mean to you?
- 7. Why do we sometimes not ask for God's help when we know in our hearts He could actually help us?
- 8. What stood out to you the most about the way the fireside conversation was depicted in the episode? Did you identify with anyone?

- 9. In the episode, Simon weaponized his faithfulness as a Jew and used it against a fellow Jesus follower, Matthew. As a modern day Christian have you ever "weaponized" your belief to make you feel better about yourself? How can you check yourself when tempted to do this?
- 10. At the close of the episode, as the disciples fought among themselves, Jesus was thanking His Father for giving Him peace. How could Christians today have more peace instead of repeatedly being drawn into the wrong battles?

PERSONAL NEXT STEPS

Renew and Refresh – This week read Matthew 4:18-25; Zechariah 4:1-14.

Self-Check

o Is there something preventing you from inviting Christ to heal something in your life? What's the first thing that came to your mind? o Are you emotionally or spiritually tired from fighting the wrong battles? What fights could you pull back from to have more strength for Christ's calling?

Go Forth – The original disciples following Jesus were obviously not perfect. Who could you talk to about following Jesus who might be encouraged knowing you don't have to be perfect to follow Him?

Pray – Thank your heavenly Father for inviting you into relationship with Him without you being perfect.

QUOTES

"I don't think He's waiting for us to be holy. I think He's here because we can't be holy without Him." - Mary "I was something else once too. They want to define us by our past, our sins." - Phillip