

## **The Chosen: Season Two Episode 3 Matthew 4:24**

The episode opens on a long line of people waiting on Jesus to heal them. There is a lot of good conversation amongst the disciples in this episode. A good reminder of what their struggle might have looked like. 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...

**Characters:** Jesus, Mary, the disciples, especially Matthew, Simon

### **Scripture:**

Psalms 139:8

Zechariah 14:1-5 and 4 (Prophecy about the Mount of Olives being split in two);

Matthew 4: 23-25 (Title of episode/ Jesus travels with the disciples and heals multitudes of people)

### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1) How does Jesus disrupt cultural dynamics? Personal dynamics?
- 2) Why did the disciples assume that Jesus was going to gather an army?
- 3) 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 as they discuss:
  - › speculation about Messiah
  - › exhaustion
  - › simple questions about life - to get to know one another
  - › the loss of a father
  - › "I tried pork once" :)
  - › swapping stories
  - › wanting to know about Jesus' birth
  - › frustration with pace
  - › questions about life, having expectations of Jesus
- 4). What did you learn about the disciples, and what do you think the producers were trying to communicate?
- 5) Little James said, "He's healing the Samaritans. How many would believe in Him if he wasn't healing them?" 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?
- 6). 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?
- 7). Read Matthew 7:1-5. How does this apply to Peter? How does it apply to us?
- 8). Jesus returned to camp exhausted from ministry. His condition stunned the disciples into silence. Why?

## **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

## **Episode 4: The Perfect Opportunity**

Jesus and the disciples head to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles, the Jewish authorities are troubled as they heard of a healing that took place during the Shabbat. We're introduced to Simon the Zealot and the Feast of the Tabernacles. The disciples travel to outside of Jerusalem for the feast. They face some unexpected opposition- the anger and tension against Jesus is building. Jesus performs a miracle.

It's really interesting to see the Zealots, Pharisees, and Disciples together- especially when they're discussing different interpretations of scripture. There was also some good foreshadowing. It was a really impactful and well done episode. Plus in one scene the Zealots recited part of one of my favorite verses- Zephaniah 3:17 "The Lord your God is with you... He will take great delight in you...(and) will rejoice over you with singing."

**Characters:** Jesus, Zealots, Pharisees, Disciples

## **Scripture:**

Psalms 69 (David's writing on the consuming 'zeal for your house')

Zechariah 14:16 and 3:17 (Prophecy about all the nations celebrating the Feast of the Tabernacles)

John 5:1-30 (Jesus heals a man at the pool and is questioned by the Jewish leaders)

## **Discussion Questions:**

- 1) How could the Pharisees, Zealots, and others interpret the same scripture passages so differently? What do you rely on to help you interpret the scriptures?
- 2) The disciples talk about the feast and sleeping outside to be a great leveler of man. The poor, the rich- everyone faces the same difficulties. What did Mary say it was to remind them of and why is it necessary to have that reminder?
- 3) The religious elite and the religious extreme were both missing out on the miracles of Jesus. Jesse's hope was misplaced but why do you think he still experienced the miracle and what was the significance of that?

## **Quotes**

Sometimes you have to stir up the water. Jesus