

# The Chosen – Season 3 – Episode 1

## “Upside Down and Backwards”

Episode Passage – Matthew 5

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### Study 1

#### Conversation Starter

Which character(s) do you want to see more of in Season 3 of The Chosen?

#### Episode Questions

1. Share about a time when you chose a path that caused your family or friends to distance themselves from you.
  2. Jesus' teaching in His sermon on the Mount seems like upside down thinking for our world. Which of His teachings impacted your thoughts the most after hearing it just now?
  3. In what ways since following Jesus have you been building your life on Him as your Rock? Jesus taught that founding our lives on Him is critical because we will all face what in this life? Explain.
  4. Matthew's father had disowned him in the episode. Do you think there is anything you can do that would cause your heavenly Father to disown you? Why or why not?
  5. Why do you think Jesus taught His followers to reconcile with other people before trying to make right with their heavenly Father?
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#### Personal Next Steps

- **Renew and Refresh** – This week read Matthew 7:24-27; 1 John 1:8-10; 3:1-2
- **Self-Check**
  - John the Baptist asked Joanna after hearing Jesus' sermon if she had been grateful for “food” while not even realizing she had been “starving.” How have you been “feeding” your spiritual appetite?
  - Jesus knew Peter would abandon Him and Judas would betray Him and yet He welcomed them into His family. Are you avoiding closeness with Christ because you feel you are abandoning Him or betraying Him? What can you change?
- **Continuing the Conversation** – What encouraged you about this episode that you could use to point someone else to trusting in Christ?
- **Pray** – Thank your heavenly Father for never giving up on you. Ask Him to help you “do” the things you are “hearing” from His Son's teachings.



# The Chosen – Season 3 – Episode 2

## "Going on Mission"

Episode Passages – Matthew 10:1-15; Mark 6:7-13; Luke 9:1-6

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## Study 2

### Conversation Starter

What was the last show, movie, or event you couldn't wait to attend or see?

### Episode Questions

1. What does "pick your battles" mean to you? How do you choose to engage or walk away from potential conflict?
2. In the episode, Matthew said he couldn't understand why Jesus chose him. Do you ever feel like Jesus would have no reason to choose you? Why or why not?
3. In the episode, Simon the Zealot couldn't defend himself against those who were hunting him. Describe a time where you felt conflicted between taking matters into your own hands but couldn't because you wanted to honor Jesus.
4. The disciples were depicted as having serious questions and concerns about going on mission for Jesus. If Jesus were to walk into the room and commission you to get up and go, what kinds of questions and concerns would you have?
5. In the episode, Little James felt like he was inadequate to answer Jesus' call on his life compared to the other disciples. Describe a time when you compared yourself to other Christians and then felt inadequate to do something for Christ? How do you overcome that?

### Personal Next Steps

- **Renew and Refresh** – This week read Romans 10:14-15; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20
- **Self-Check**
  - In the first two episodes of season 3, there is a heavy emphasis on reconciling damaged relationships and rescuing the lost. Who is Jesus moving you to reconcile with? Who is Jesus moving you to "rescue?"
  - Many Christians don't "feel" God's Spirit and power in them so they don't act on His calling in their life. How do you make yourself act "on mission" when you don't "feel" His power and presence?
- **Continuing the Conversation** – In the episode, Jesus said Thomas might be able to put a good word in for Him with his future father-in-law. Who could you put a good word in for Jesus?
- **Pray** – This week, take a moment and pray Psalm 3.



## The Chosen – Season 3 – Episode 3

### “If Not Now...”

Episode Passages – Luke 4:14-30

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## Study 3

### Conversation Starter

What is a favorite memory of your family growing up?

### Episode Questions

1. How did the opening scene with Jesus and His mom make you feel?
  2. In the episode, Jesus taught about spiritual poverty. What do you think Jesus was trying to help His listeners understand?
  3. Jesus often took issue with the Jewish religious leaders because they thought they were closer to God than other people. As a Christian, do you ever feel like you're "better" than other people? How do you combat self righteousness?
  4. If you were in the synagogue listening to Jesus' claims that day, would you have believed Him or would you have wanted Him put to death for blasphemy? Explain.
  5. In the episode, Jesus told Mary that the crowd needed to hear the words He spoke. What truth do you need to hear that you might be resisting?
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### Personal Next Steps

- **Renew and Refresh** – This week read Luke 4:14-30
- **Self-Check**
  - When was the last time you thought about your spiritual poverty? Have your spiritual routines made you too comfortable? What can you change?
  - In the episode, Jesus was very serious when speaking about eternal matters and spirituality. What area(s) of your life can you improve with more of an eternal Kingdom mindset?
- **Continuing the Conversation** – People struggled to accept Jesus' claims when He was here on earth. How can you talk about Jesus with someone who doesn't believe in a way that would cause them to want to hear more? Who do you know that you could pray for and talk with?
- **Pray** – This week, ask your heavenly Father to inspire you to remember His Spirit's presence in your day to day life and help you with decision making.



# The Chosen – Season 3 – Episode 4

## “Faith and Doubt”

Episode Passages – Luke 10:17-24

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### Study 4

#### Conversation Starter

If Jesus gave you the power to perform miracles, what miracle would you perform first?

#### Episode Questions

1. In the episode, Yussif and Jairus discuss the dangers of breaking with traditional Jewish beliefs in order to believe Jesus was the promised Messiah. While we may have never had our lives at risk for our beliefs, have you ever been fearful of the consequences of talking openly about your faith? Explain.
  2. In the episode, Simon Peter and his wife experience tension stemming from an imbalance between work and home life. Have you experienced a work / life imbalance? How do you manage that tension?
  3. Have you ever struggled with obeying what you believe God wants you to do because He hadn't revealed the whole picture to you? How do you make yourself "step out on faith" even when you don't see or understand all of the details?
  4. Have you ever felt like a fraud or a hypocrite (like Big James in the episode) when you are talking about your faith or serving within your church family? Explain.
  5. Who do you turn to when you are struggling in your faith to help reset your spiritual compass?
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#### Personal Next Steps

- **Renew and Refresh** – This week read Proverbs 3:5-6.
- **Self-Check**
  - How would you rate your “walk of faith” today? Are you making progress in your spiritual journey as you trust Christ or are you hesitating? What is the biggest obstacle of your faith today? How has God shown you in your past journey with Him that you can trust Him and move forward without all of the details?
  - Has your Christianity become too comfortable? When was the last time you were inconvenienced as you followed Christ?
- **Continuing the Conversation** – What do you have in common with someone that could be a bridge for you to be able to talk with them about your faith?
- **Pray** – This week, ask your heavenly Father to help you in that area where your faith struggles.



# The Chosen – Season 3 – Episode 5 "Something New"

Episode Passages – Matthew 9:14-17; Mark 5:21-43

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## Study 5

### Conversation Starter

When was the last time you tried something new? What was it? How did it go?

### Episode Questions

1. This episode begins with Simon Peter's wife experiencing tremendous loss. When something traumatic happens in your life, who and or what do you first turn to? Do troubled times hurt your faith in God? Why or why not?
2. In the episode, Simon Peter and Gaius have an awkward conversation. Have your personality quirks or prejudices ever hindered your ability to connect with someone? How does that affect your ability to talk about your faith with them? How can Christians be more self-aware to prevent barriers to sharing about Christ?
3. This episode portrayed life change in the lives of those who had started following Jesus after believing in Him as the Messiah. What have been some of the biggest changes in your life since believing in Jesus?
4. In the episode, Jesus encourages Jairus to "not be afraid, but just believe." Are there some areas in your life where you struggle with fear and need to just believe? Share.
5. In the episode, Simon Peter's wife is not celebrating with the others. Have there been times in your faith journey when others were celebrating around you but you didn't share their joy? Can you tell the group about that time?

### Personal Next Steps

- **Renew and Refresh** – This week read Mark 5:25-34
- **Self-Check**
  - When dealing with a crisis, is your first response faith based or do you try to handle things in your own strength? What could you change? What should you change?
  - What needs healing in your life today? Do you believe Jesus can heal you?
- **Continuing the Conversation** – Who do you know that is experiencing some sort of brokenness that you could show compassion toward? What kind of conversation could you have with them?
- **Pray** – Ask your heavenly Father to grow your faith in the areas of belief you struggle with.



## The Chosen – Season 3 – Episode 6 “Rising Tensions”

Episode Passages – Matthew 10:34-36; John 12:20-26; Luke 7:18-33

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### Study 6

#### Conversation Starter

Which scene or moment have you really enjoyed the most so far in this season?

#### Episode Questions

1. In the episode, Simon the Zealot (“Z”) sharpened his dagger planning to take matters into his own hands if need be thinking he was doing it for Jesus. Have you ever taken matters into your own hands “for Jesus”? Explain.
2. In the episode, Mary expresses her feelings about being still broken and feeling like she’ll never be good enough for Jesus. What would you tell a friend or family member who shared that type of feeling with you?
3. When someone talks negatively about Jesus or Christianity, how does it make you feel and how do you respond?
4. In the episode, Gaius and Simon the Zealot are behaving very differently because of Jesus’ impact on how they are doing life. How has Jesus been impacting how you do life recently? How can we remember in tense moments that it’s more about His Kingdom than ours?
5. When John the baptizer was imprisoned, he questioned if Jesus was the Messiah. Do you think it is wrong or even sinful when a Christian’s faith waivers? Why or why not?

#### Personal Next Steps

- **Renew and Refresh** – This week read 1 John 1:5-9
- **Self-Check**
  - Do you see yourself as valuable the way Jesus sees you? How can you reset your thinking to see yourself more like Jesus does and resist feeling unworthy?
  - John taught Jesus followers to not avoid their heavenly Father when they sin. Are you avoiding time with your heavenly Father because you think you have failed Him or are failing Him? What does John teach us to do?
- **Continuing the Conversation** – As Jesus helped people with their needs, who could you help out with something that your act of kindness could open up a conversation about Jesus?
- **Pray** – Ask your heavenly Father to remind you that you are representing His Kingdom.



## The Chosen – Season 3 – Episode 7

### “An Open Invitation”

Episode Passages – Matthew 22:1-14; Luke 14:15-24

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## Study 7

### Conversation Starter

In the episode, the Jewish Holiday of Purim is about to be celebrated. What is your favorite holiday to celebrate? Why?

### Episode Questions

1. Have you ever been frustrated with how things are turning out when you have been trying to follow Jesus' ways? How do you handle those times in your life?
2. If Christians share their faith in a respectful and gracious way, how concerned should they be about their listeners' reactions to the Good News? Explain.
3. In the episode, Eden's friends put sentiment into action. Sometimes telling a friend you are praying for them during their difficult time may seem a little empty. What are other ways Christians can show support to someone struggling?
4. When do you think it is "okay" to quit trying to reach a hard hearted person with the Good News of God's Kingdom?
5. In the episode, Simon Peter's faith is challenged in a big way. When your faith takes a hit because God doesn't answer a serious prayer request for you, how do you respond? How do you restore your faith in Christ in those seasons where it is shaken?

### Personal Next Steps

- **Renew and Refresh** – This week read Hebrews 12:1-3
- **Self-Check**
  - Jesus does not want His followers to live under the burden of regret and shame. How do you reset your thinking when you are feeling discouraged about poor choices in your past?
  - What are times you can think of where God "stepped into your life" and changed your direction for the better? Are you open to His influence in your life right now? Does anything need to change?

**Continuing the Conversation** – Who could you share a story with about your faith journey that might cause them to want to know more about Jesus' Kingdom in the here and now?

**Pray** – Ask your heavenly Father to grow your faith in the areas where you struggle.



## The Chosen – Season 3 – Episode 8

### “Not ‘What’ But ‘Who’ You Believe In”

Episode Passages – Psalm 77; Matthew 13:1-9; 44-45; 14:13-33

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## Study 8

### Conversation Starter

How did the depiction of the feeding of the multitude or Jesus and Simon Peter walking on the water impact you?

### Episode Questions

1. How do you answer someone outside the faith who asks why God permits suffering? How do you encourage another Christian whose suffering is prolonged?
2. How do you resist being jealous or envious of other Christians when you see God blessing their lives and your life seems unblessed or maybe stalled?
3. How do you think religious traditions in Christianity confuse those outside the faith from understanding the simplicity of the Gospel? How can a Christian keep the “main thing” the “main thing” when sharing the Good News with a non-Christian?
4. In the episode, Simon Peter and his wife are unwilling to let go of the pain of their loss. How do you encourage a fellow believer going through a time like this? How do you heal from a time like this?
5. In the episode, Simon Peter begged Jesus to never let go of him after pulling him out of the water. Look at John 21 and see how Jesus never let Peter go.

### Personal Next Steps

- **Renew and Refresh** – This week read passage Matthew 13:10-23
- **Self-Check**
  - When you hear a Jesus teaching, how is the quality of your “soil” right now? Is it hard and rocky? Is it riddled with thorns and weeds that choke it from taking root? Or is your soil soft and ready to grow His truth into your life?
  - When you are desperate and even angry, how do you cry out to your heavenly Father? What do you believe He will do when you pour your heart out to Him?
- **Continuing the Conversation** – Is there someone you need to share the Gospel with in a more simple way without the constraints of religion?
- **Pray** – Thank your heavenly Father for never letting go of you.

