

The Chosen – Season 1- Episode 7

Invitations



You can watch this episode via The Chosen app on your smartphone or tablet, or via your web browser on thechosen.tv [here](#)

Scripture References:

- >The Calling of Matthew – [Matthew 9:9-13](#)
- >The Bronze Snake – [Numbers 21:4-9](#)
- >Kiss His Son – [Psalm 2:11-12](#)
- >Jesus Teaches Nicodemus – [John 3:1-21](#)

Synopsis:

In a sentence: Jesus invites both Nicodemus and Matthew to follow Him.

The episode begins in the 12th century B.C. where the Hebrews find themselves suffering terribly and dying in the midst of poisonous snakes. Moses implements a way that they might be healed when bitten.

The episode returns to 30 A.D. Capernaum. Matthew has an awkward meeting with his mother. In spite of the concerns of Simon and Andrew for his safety, Jesus meets with Nicodemus and invites him to join His movement. Jesus calls Matthew to follow him. Matthew immediately closes his tax booth and joins Jesus at once, to the astonishment of his Roman body guard Gaius and the concerns of Simon. Jesus has a solution for Matthew's problem of never being invited to dinner parties.

Episode review on Patheos.com:

The full review of this episode is available on patheos.com [here](#). The review provides detail on the historical context and basis for this episode in Old and New Testament scripture, and where the episode departs from scripture through artistic license.

Memorable lines of dialogue:

Jesus to Mary: *"With their faith, they would have found a way whether you brought them to the roof or not."*

Matthew: *"My whole world, everything I thought I knew, what if it's wrong?"*

Jesus to Andrew: *"You were there to guide our guest, not be my protector."*

Jesus to Nicodemus: *"If I have told you of earthly things, and you do not believe, how can I tell you heavenly things?"*

Nicodemus: *"My whole life I have wondered if I would see this day."*

Jesus: *"Matthew, son of Alphaeus, follow me."*

Matthew to Jesus: *"Me?"*

Jesus to Matthew: *"Yes."*

Simon to Jesus: *"Do you have any idea what this guy has done?*

Do you even know him?"

Jesus: *"Yes."*

Matthew: *"Where are we going?"*

Mary: *"To a dinner party."*

Matthew: *"I'm not welcome at dinner parties."*

Jesus: *"Well that's not going to be a problem tonight. You're the host."*

Watch for This:



Starting at 31:11

Watch how Jesus calls Matthew first with just a look, and then with a few simple words. Note Matthew's immediate response and the disbelief of Gaius and later Simon. Note the only thing Matthew brings with him is his tablet, foreshadowing his role as the writer of Matthew's gospel with its recounting of events, starting with the genealogy of Jesus. In Episode 8 we'll see Matthew constantly writing notes in his tablet as the Disciples travel about.

Also, enjoy the humor at the end where Jesus gives Matthew the solution for not being welcome at dinner parties.

Questions for an informal discussion:

1. What did you think about this episode? Did anything particularly stand out for you?
2. What questions do you have about this episode?
3. If you were meeting on the rooftop with Jesus, and you could ask him one question, what would it be?

For personal reflection and/or discussion with friends:

4. Why do you think Matthew was so quick to follow Jesus, while Nicodemus was reluctant to do the same?
5. If Jesus appeared at your door today and asked you to follow Him, which character would you most be like: Matthew or Nicodemus? Why?
6. What did you think of Peter's reaction to Jesus calling Matthew? ("*Do you have any idea what this guy has done? Do you even know him?*"). Where might you be having the same reaction today?
7. **Over the course of the coming week:** ask Jesus what he wants to show you or teach you in this episode. If you are comfortable doing so, please consider sharing what comes to mind with the group next week.

Going deeper:

- This episode's Round Table discussion by a group of Biblical Experts can be seen [here](#).

- In this YouTube [video](#) Brandon Robbins shares some surprising details and insights on the episode.
- Watch the feature One Teen's Deep Connection to The Chosen. You can watch it on YouTube [here](#).

Music to reflect on:

Song: [You make me brave](#) (artist: Amanda Cook)

About This Companion:

This Episode Companion is offered as bread and fish for our Lord's use in spreading the good news of the Gospels. Its author, Peter McCaskell, lives in Guelph, Ontario, Canada and attends [Lakeside Church](#). You are welcome to contact Peter via email to peter.mccaskell@rogers.com

End notes:

None for this episode.