

The Chosen – Season 1- Episode 8

I Am He



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:

- > Jacob Buys a Plot of Ground – [Genesis 33:18-20](#)
- > Jesus Talks With a Samaritan Woman – [John 4:1-42](#)
- > Jesus Heals Simon's Mother-In-Law – [Luke 4:38-39](#)
- > Jesus Eats With Tax Collectors and Sinners – [Mark 2:13-17](#)

Synopsis:

In a sentence: Jesus and His followers journey to Samaria¹ where Jesus proclaims for the first time that he is the Messiah.

Some two thousand years B.C., Jacob, acting on God's instruction, digs a well where the local inhabitants tell him there is no water. Two thousand years later Jesus' followers strenuously object when he leads them on a detour through Samaria. While there Jesus meets an ostracized woman (Photina) at the well. The Pharisees are shocked that Jesus would attend a dinner party hosted by the tax collector Matthew, and that even people from the Red Quarter are in attendance! Gaius betrays his fondness for Matthew in a conversation with Matthew's

parents. In her absolute joy at meeting the Messiah, Photina starts running back towards town, exclaiming she will “tell everyone”. Jesus replies “I am counting on it.”

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:

Jacob: *“We didn’t choose him, he chose us.”*

Eden to Jesus: *“Jesus? I wasn’t expecting you here.”*

Jesus: *“People usually aren’t.”*

Eden to Simon: *“Thank you.”*

Simon: *“Me? For what?”*

Eden: *“For obeying and following him.”*

Jesus to his disciples: *“Did you join me for safety reasons?”*

Jesus: *“Listen, if we are going to have a question and answer session every time we do something you are not used to, this is going to be a very annoying time together for all of us.”*

Samaritan Woman: *“I am rejected by others.”*

Jesus: *“I know. But not by the Messiah.”*

Samaritan Woman: *“I am going to tell everyone.”*

Jesus: *“I am counting on it.”*

Watch for This:



Starting at 31:09

Watch the heartbreak of Nicodemus, and the look of sadness on Jesus' face, as Nicodemus can't bring himself to join those who are going with Jesus. It seems so sad as Jesus asks "*Is there anyone else?*"



Starting at 24:09

Watch the touching scene where Jesus is speaking with Eden as Simon prepares to depart to follow Jesus. And enjoy the gentle humor when Jesus says "*Plus, normal Simon is difficult enough, you think I want to travel with a worried Simon?*"



Starting at 58:45 (i.e. after the closing credits)

Watch for the humorous scene (not used in the actual episode) where Jesus shows up at the wrong location to meet with His followers. Apparently it was a running joke during filming that Jesus was always turning the wrong way on His travels and getting lost so the actors had a bit of fun with that joke in this scene.

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. Preamble: The opening scene of Jacob digging the well is an excellent example of *paying it forward* and we see how Jesus used that well to reach Photina almost one thousand years later.

Have you experienced someone paying it forward in your life? Where might you do it for others?

4. What thoughts occurred to you as you watched Nicodemus weeping behind the wall as the disciples were gathering to depart with Jesus?

For personal reflection and/or discussion with friends:

5. Has there ever been a time in your life when you were as excited about Jesus as the woman at the well was? How can you bring back some of that excitement?

6. Preamble: In her absolute joy at meeting the Messiah, Photina starts running back towards town, exclaiming she will “tell everyone”. Jesus replies “I am counting on it.”

Where might Jesus be counting on you to tell others about him? How might you go about it?

7. Preamble: Nicodemus wept when he could not leave all that he had to follow Jesus.

What things in your life might be keeping you from following Jesus more closely? How can you overcome them?

8. Re-watch the trailer for season 1 of The Chosen to enjoy again some of the scenes from the eight episodes we have watched together. (You can watch the trailer on YouTube [here](#).) If you feel comfortable doing so, share what you feel Jesus wanted to teach you or show you through season 1 of The Chosen.

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 this feature on YouTube: [Why is the woman at the well so important?](#)

As we conclude season 1:

- Enjoy again Lauren Daigle’s beautiful song [You Say](#). As you watch, remind yourself of these words from Isaiah 43 that Jesus spoke to Mary in episode 1:

I have called you by name, you are mine.

- Bask in Rabbi Jason Sobel’s² [words of blessing](#).

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:

1. A map of Israel in New Testament times is [here](#). Samaria was a territory between Galilee in the north and Judea in the south. Episode 8's scene with the woman at the well was set just outside of Sychar. You'll find Sychar near the center of the map. There was intense hostility between the Jews and the Samaritans; so much so that devout Jews would go many miles out of their way to avoid travelling through the territory.
2. Rabbi Jason Sobel is one of the Biblical scholars on the Roundtables that accompany each episode of season 1 of The Chosen.