

## The Chosen – Season 3 - Episode 8

### Sustenance



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

### Scripture:

- > *In the Day of Trouble I Seek the Lord*  
– [Psalm 77](#)
- > Seek the ancient paths – [Jeremiah 6:16](#)
- > The Parable of the Sower – [Matthew 13:1-9](#)
- > *"Come to me and I will give you rest."*  
– [Matthew 11:25-30](#)
- > The Parable of the Two Sons.  
– [Matthew 21:28-32](#)
- > The Parable of the Pearl.  
– [Matthew 13:45-46](#)
- > The Feeding of the Five Thousand.  
– [Matthew 14:13-21](#) [Mark 6:30-44](#)  
[Luke 9:10-17](#) [John 6:1-15](#)
- > Faith as small as a mustard seed.  
– [Matthew 17:20](#)
- > *"Behold I am doing a new thing."*  
– [Isaiah 43:18-19](#)
- > *The Parable of the Hidden Treasure.*  
– [Matthew 13:44](#)
- > Clothing made of two types of fabric.  
– [Deuteronomy 22:11](#)
- > *"Men will come from east and west to sit and eat in the kingdom of heaven."*  
– [Matthew 8:11](#)
- > Jesus Walks on the Water  
– [Matthew 14:22-33](#) [Mark 6:45-52](#)  
[Luke 8:22-25](#) [John 6:16-21](#)

## Synopsis:

The episode begins in 990 B.C. with Asaph<sup>1</sup> and his choir performing [Psalm 77](#) for King David and his pregnant queen (perhaps Bathsheba, pregnant with Solomon?) After the opening credits we return to the turmoil Jesus and the Disciples were experiencing (at the end of Episode 7). We see them surrounded by groups of both Gentiles and Jews mocking and berating them. Profoundly affected by seeing Jesus heal a lame man, the groups cease their accusing and mocking, sitting down quietly and in awe to listen as Jesus teaches his disciples. Thousands gather from the far reaches of the Decapolis to hear Jesus' teaching which extends late into the night and resumes the next day. The Jewish healer Nashan alerts Rabbi Shmuel to the "false prophet Jewish Rabbi" who is – gasp! - *consorting with Gentiles!* – *"He even healed a Gentile deaf mute!"*. Shmuel treats Nashan with contempt due to his lack of prayer tassels and other clothing violations of Torah, but eagerly listens to his damaging report on Jesus. In response to the report Shmuel, Yanni and an elder Pharisee immediately depart to the Decapolis to seek "three witnesses" so Jesus may at last be brought for punishment before Rabbi Shammai and the Sanhedrin.

As Jesus' teaching continues into the second day the disciples fret over how the huge crowd will be fed. Using a seemingly inconsequential offering contributed by a little boy, Jesus addresses the crisis with the miracle of the loaves and wishes. Paralleling season one's [The Wedding Gift](#) episode, we again hear an observer exclaim *"he gave us even more than we needed"*. While the disciples celebrate the miracle Simon remains bitter and distant in his grief and anger over Eden's miscarriage, deliberately kicking over a basket filled with fish and bread in his frustration. A particular irritant for Simon is Jesus healing others but seemingly not caring for "us". Simon worries he doesn't belong – *"I think I was a mistake."*

Rabbi Shmuel and his companions arrive in the Decapolis after an arduous journey, just as the huge crowd is departing. Unmoved after hearing of the miraculous feeding of the 5000, instead Shmuel is infuriated to learn of the far more consequential event - that Jesus broke bread with Gentiles! Back in Capernaum Eden, accompanied by Salome, seeks Rabbi Yusef's help for a reading from Torah to overcome her grief. Eden is powerfully affected by Yusef's choice of Psalm 77 which begins by invoking anguish but then turns to remembering the mighty deeds of the Lord. At Yusef's recommendation Eden departs for a ritual bath in the mikveh, now that it has been repaired by Simon and Gaius. The Disciples begin their return to Capernaum while Jesus remains behind to rest. He has a gentle conversation with a wondering and confused Rabbi Shmuel, inviting Shmuel to spend time in prayer with him *"and then we can talk"*. The scene ends with Shmuel following Jesus, seemingly accepting Jesus' invitation.

Meanwhile the Disciples return to Capernaum via a "shortcut" by boat across the Sea of Galilee at night. In the middle of the sea they encounter a fierce storm that threatens to swamp them. In the midst of the storm Jesus appears out on the water. In faith Simon steps out of the boat and walks towards Jesus but sinks under the waves when he takes his eyes off him, instead looking about at the raging sea all around him. In an emotional scene, while Jesus extends his hand to pull Simon up from under the water, at the same time back in Capernaum Eden rises up from her immersion beneath the waters of the mikvah.

In a closing montage, to the background sound of Asaph's choir completing the reading of Psalm 77, the episode and season three concludes with the joyous reunion of Simon and Eden back in their home.

## Memorable Lines of Dialogue:

Mary Magdalene to Eden: *And being cleansed didn't help at all?*

Eden: *No, it made it worse. Because it didn't bring my baby back, it didn't help with my marriage. That woman, Veronica, who Jesus healed when she cleansed in the sea, she had so much joy ...*

[weeping] *Jesus gave her healing and joy but he hasn't given that to me.*

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Leander: *Jesus of Nazareth, if you are who you say you are, why do you inspire and transform some people, but threaten and disgust others?*

Jesus: *Let me tell you a story. [crowd groans] I know, I know, but this is another thing we Jews do. ... So everyone just listen up. A sower went out to sow ...*

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Jesus to his disciples [in response to the crowd saying they can't hear him]: *Students, help pass my words along to those far away.*

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Shephard woman to Nashan  
(the Jewish healer on his way  
to Rabbi Shmuel to report on  
the false prophet / Jewish  
Rabbi): *You'd better hurry – there's a storm coming.*  
Nashan: *There certainly is!*

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Jesus to the crowd: *What I have to say is for both Jews and Gentiles ... So many of you are here, listening to Me, eager to be drawn closer to God, eager to find peace in your souls! And in doing so, you have more wisdom than most of the religious leaders who refuse to be humble.*

[looking skyward] *I thank you Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children.*

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Andrew to Jesus: *Five loaves and two fish – but what is this for so many?*

The little boy: *I know it's not enough.*

Jesus: *Well, it's enough for me.*

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Jesus: *I have kept you here all day, giving you spiritual food. But you clearly need natural food now. So let's eat! [resulting in a rousing cheer from the 5000]*

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Rabbi Yusef to Eden: *[pausing half-way through reading Psalm 77] This song is desperate, even angry. ... Do you know who is also desperate and angry? Simon ... but that's not the end of the Psalm is it?*

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John: *Have faith Simon!*

Simon: *Faith isn't my problem! I think I was a mistake!*

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Simon to Jesus as Jesus pulls  
him up from beneath the  
stormy sea: *Don't leave me Lord – please!*

Jesus: *I've got you.*

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Simon on the Sea of Galilee: *Please Lord, don't let me go.*

[at the same time back in  
Capernaum] Eden emerging  
from the ritual bath: *Please, don't let him go.*

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Jesus commanding the raging  
storm: *Peace! Be still!*

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Simon, weeping in Jesus' arms  
in the boat after the storm has  
past: *Please – don't let me go.*

Jesus: *I'm here. I'm always here.*

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### Memorable Scenes:



[Starting at 13:51] Eden's anguish. *"Jesus gave her [Veronica] healing and joy, but he hasn't given that to me."*



[Starting at 22:54] Jesus teaches the Parable of the Sower. *"Students, help pass my words along to those far away."*



[Starting at 41:55] Jesus feeds the 5000. *"I know it's not much." "Well, it's enough for me."*



[Starting at 49:10] Eden meets with Rabbi Yussef.



[Starting at 56:17] Rabbi Shmuel is infuriated – Jesus broke bread with Gentiles!!!



[Starting at 1:03:43] Simon steps out of the boat. Simon and Eden both emerge from under the water.



[Starting at 59:20] Season 3 concludes.

### For Discussion:

1. What stood out for you in this episode? What caught your attention, touched your heart or was particularly relevant for you?
2. Looking back over your faith journey, where has Jesus called you to *step out of the boat* in faith? Share your experience if comfortable doing so.
3. Where might Jesus be asking you to *step out in faith* today?
4. Preamble: Jesus to the Disciples when they ask his help feeding the hungry crowd: *"Can you bring me anything?"*

Reflect on the scene at 43:22 where the little boy says *"I know it's not enough."* referring to the meagre offering of five barley loaves and two fish he can provide, with such a huge crowd hungry to be fed. Note Jesus' reply: *"Well, it's enough for me."*

What thoughts come to mind?

5. *"Students, help pass my words along to those far away."*

Looking back over your faith journey, who has *passed Jesus' words along to you*? How did they do it? How can we pass along Jesus' words to others in these times when seemingly so many don't have ears to hear them?

6. Preamble: Rabbi Yussef to Eden: *"But that's not the end of the Psalm, is it?"*

The late comedian and partner of George Burns, Gracie Allen, once said something similar: *"Never place a period where God has placed a comma."* Similarly Pastor Robyn Elliot<sup>2</sup> has a saying *"If it's not good, God's not done."* ( and of course the famous Yogi Berra' saying comes to mind as well – *"It ain't over 'til it's over"* . )

How do these quotes comfort your heart today?

7. Preamble: Peter, weeping in Jesus' arms in the boat after Jesus has calmed the storm:  
*"Please don't let me go."*

Jesus in response: *"I'm here. I'm always here."*

Recall a time when you especially felt Jesus' presence. Share if comfortable doing so.

8. In Episode 7 Jesus says *"The success of this trip depends on Simon"* [referring to their upcoming trip to the Decapolis]. Now that we have seen Jesus' and the Disciples' trip to the Decapolis in Episode 8, what do you think Jesus meant by his statement? What lessons are there here for us?

**And now, as Season 3 concludes:**

9. Reflect on the theme for Season 3 of The Chosen - *Not What I Was*. What thoughts come to mind? Share if comfortable doing so.
10. Thinking back over the eight episodes of Season 3, what particularly stood out for you? Why?

### Going Deeper:<sup>3</sup>

- From his *The Chosen Explained* series: Brandon Robbins' deep dive on this episode is available on YouTube [here](#).
- A thoughtful overview of key themes in episodes 7 and 8 is [here](#). (The section begins about two-thirds down the page and is entitled *Key Themes in The Chosen Season 3 Episodes 7 & 8*.)

### 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](mailto:peter.mccaskell@rogers.com)

Episode Companions for previous seasons and episodes of The Chosen are available for free download on the Navigators Canada website [here](#).

### End Notes:

1. You can read more about Asaph [here](#).
2. Pastor Robyn Elliot is Pastor of Spiritual Growth at [Lakeside Church](#) in Guelph, Ontario, Canada.
3. The Bible Roundtable discussions for the eight episodes of Season 3 are anticipated to be available in The Chosen app and on [TheChosen.tv](#) in March 2023.