

The Chosen – Season 2 - Episode 1

Thunder



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 opening to John's Gospel – [John 1:1-18](#)
- >Sons of Thunder – [Mark 3:17](#)
- >The woman at the well – [John 4:28-30](#) [39-42](#)
- >The Good Samaritan - [Luke 10:25-37](#)
- >Not enough room – [John 21:24-25](#)
- >Should we call down fire? – [Luke 9:52-56](#)
- >Greater works than these – [John 14:12](#)

Synopsis:

In a sentence: Jesus begins his public ministry in, of all places, Samaria¹.

The episode opens sometime after Jesus death². John, gathering information for what would become his Gospel, interviews the disciples and other followers of Jesus, asking them how they met Jesus.

After the opening credits the episode returns to the time of Jesus, as he begins his public ministry in Samaria. Big James and John consider themselves special as Jesus has asked them to plow a field and organize an important dinner. They speculate that it may be due to them being hard workers, or because of their hatred of Samaritans that Jesus chose them. The disciples debate amongst themselves what important religious leaders Jesus should meet first as his public ministry begins. To the surprise of the disciples the important dinner turns out to be with a poor and crippled Samaritan farmer who has a checkered past. During the after-dinner discussion we obtain a new perspective on the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Lost Sheep. Jesus, Big James and John are accosted by a group of Samaritans

and James and John earn the nickname *Sons of Thunder* for their response. Jesus is invited to read from the scrolls of Moses in a temple and the reading he chooses inspires John on what words to use to open his Gospel.

Memorable lines of dialogue:

Jesus while repairing a wagon: “Sometimes all you need is a fresh set of eyes.”

Jesus to Big James and John: “We are planting seeds here that will have an impact for lifetimes.”

Jesus to a crowd: “We know God pursues the sick more than the healthy.”

Jesus to Rema’s father: “I ask a lot of those who follow me, but I ask little of those who don’t.”

Samaritan farmer to Jesus: “If you knew who I am you would never have helped me.”
Jesus to the farmer: “That’s not true. This is what we do.”

Samaritan farmer to Jesus: “You know the crime I committed, in cold blood.
And you’d help someone like me?”
Andrew to the farmer: “He would.”

Inn Keeper: “One of the rooms is haunted.”
Jesus: “Ooh! I’ll take that one!”

John to Jesus as Jesus awakes
smiling after the night in the Inn:
Jesus in response:

“What’s so funny?”

“Oh, I just know of a family that’s having an unexpectedly
good morning.”

Jesus to the disciples:

“As we gather others I need you to show the way.”

Jesus to Big James and John:

“Strong passion can be good when channeled for
righteousness.”

Jesus to John:

“I am who I am.”

Watch for this:



[Starting at 37:45]

Watch this unique perspective on the parables of The Good Samaritan and The Lost Sheep.



[Starting at 45:20]

Watch the joy when the crippled Samaritan farmer discovers he has been healed.



[Starting at 56:00]

This scene illustrates one of the major differences between the Jews of Samaria, and those of Judea and Galilee³.



]Starting at 59:00]

Watch how the show’s writers, through the use of artistic license, depict how John’s opening words in his Gospel parallel and are inspired by Jesus’s choice of the passage he chose to read in the synagogue.

Questions for discussion:

1. What stood out for you in this episode? Were there any scenes or dialog that particularly spoke to you?
2. Jesus tells Big James and John that *"The seeds we are planting here will have an impact for lifetimes."* Who planted seeds that have impacted you? Share what they did if comfortable doing so.
3. The crippled Samaritan farmer literally danced with joy when he realized Jesus had healed him. Have you ever had a God encounter that caused you great joy? Share your story if comfortable doing so.
4. In John 4:39 NLT we read: *Many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus because the woman had said, "He told me everything I ever did!"* Who played a key role in leading you to Jesus? How did they do it?
5. If, like Jesus, you were invited to read a passage of scripture of your choice to an audience, what passage would you choose? Why is that passage special for you?
6. If you have had the opportunity to look at some of the [Going Deeper resources \(below\)](#), was there anything that stood out for you?

For personal reflection:

7. **Over the course of the coming week:** ask Jesus what he wanted 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:

- From his *The Chosen Explained* series: Brandon Robbins' deep dive on this episode is available on YouTube [here](#).
- This episode's Round Table discussion by a group of Biblical Experts can be seen [here](#).
- This [video](#) talks about some of the historical reasons for the hostility between the Judea / Galilee Jews and the Jews of Samaria.
- In this YouTube [video](#) Brandon Robbins shares insights on *6 Things You Didn't Know About The Apostle John*.

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 is the region between Galilee in the north and Judea in the south.
2. Mary, the mother of Jesus, says they are currently sitting *Shiba*, the traditional seven-day period of mourning that follows burial. Commentators think it is likely that Mary and the disciples are mourning the death of James.
3. The Samaritans accepted only the five books of Moses and rejected the writings of the prophets and many of the Jewish traditions. From these causes arose irreconcilable differences between them, so that the Jews regarded the Samaritans as the worst of the human race ([John 8:48](#)) and had no dealings with them ([John 4:9](#)).