

The Chosen – Season 2 - Episode 3

Matthew 4:24



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:

>News spreads throughout Syria – [Matthew 4:24](#)

Synopsis:

In a sentence: We see an evening of ordinary conversation among the disciples while they wait for Jesus to rejoin them after a long day and night healing the multitudes who came for his help.

After a tiring 4 hour trek the disciples set up camp in the afternoon, while long lineups of Samaritans form seeking Jesus' healing for their maladies.

While waiting for Jesus the disciples have a wide raging conversation: discussion about how Jesus differs from the type of Messiah they expected, dealing with the loss of a parent, confessions about breaking the Jewish laws (*"I tried pork once"*), listening to Mary describe her feelings at the birth of her son Jesus and also her sadness at his growing independence from her (*"I taught him to eat and walk and now he no longer needs me."*) and sharing their frustrations with where Jesus is spending his time in his ministry (*"All he's been doing is teaching and healing. This could go on for five years. When do we get to do some fighting?"*)

As the evening draws to an end Simon Peter leads some of the disciples in attacking Matthew for betraying the Jewish people by working for the Romans as a tax collector. As the attacks grow more

heated an exhausted Jesus returns from his day of healing and the disciples fall silent. The episode ends with a totally spent Jesus needing his mother's help to prepare for bed.

A note on the cinematography: starting immediately after the opening credits, this episode contains an incredible 15 minute scene that was shot in one continuous take - something unheard of in current TV and movie production¹.

Memorable lines of dialogue:

Matthew to Phillip:	"Where would be a good place to start? The laws of Moses, the prophecies of Isaiah, the wisdom of Solomon?"
---------------------	---

Phillip to Matthew:	"For you, the songs of David would be a good place to start."
---------------------	---

Phillip to Matthew:	"No amount of learning can bring you closer to God or make you more or less precious to God. He's always right here, right now, with you, for you."
---------------------	---

Matthew to Phillip:	"I don't feel it."
---------------------	--------------------

Phillip to Matthew:	"There's something about writing it down that goes a long way."
---------------------	---

Phillip to the disciples:	"With his (Jesus') fame comes enemies. And you will be hated too."
---------------------------	--

Big James to the disciples:	"If someone had told you growing up that you would be this close to the Messiah, that you would help him and be part of his mission; what would you have thought?"
-----------------------------	--

Big James to the disciples: "We're just going to be doing this for the next 5 years and we'll never get to the fighting part."

Mary Magdalene to the disciples: "I don't think He's waiting for us to be holy. I think he's here because we can't be Holy without him."

Andrew to the disciples: "I don't think any of us went to midrash² or did much after school studying. That's what's so surprising about all this."

Thomas to the disciples: "I don't get it if I'm honest. I don't know why God has allowed the occupation – why this has been allowed for so long. It's hard to feel like the chosen people."

Mary Magdalene to the disciples: (speaking of the dark period in her life) "I forgot so much of what I learned as a little girl."

Big James to Mary: "But now you can catch up."

Mary to Jesus: "Get some sleep my son".

Jesus to Mary: (looking totally exhausted) "Okay. I'm so tired."

Watch for this:



[Starting at 7:07]

In this scene the disciples discuss what they thought it would be like to be followers of the Messiah.



[Starting at 17:22]

In this scene we see Andrew and Rana expressing their feelings of inadequacy to be Jesus' disciples.



[Starting at 29:04]

In this scene we see the disciples quarrelling, and watch as they fall silent as an exhausted Jesus returns.

Questions for discussion:

1. What stood out for you in this episode? Were there any scenes or dialog that particularly spoke to you? Why?
2. Phillip recommends Matthew start by reading, meditating on, and writing down his thoughts on the Songs of David to grow his faith. What activities help you grow your faith?
3. In this episode we see many examples of the disciples' shortcomings, their roughness and their feelings of inadequacy. Why do you think Jesus called these people to be his disciples rather than the much more urbane, educated and respected Pharisees and teachers of the law?
4. Reflect on the saying: *Jesus does not call the qualified, he qualifies the called.* What thoughts or experiences come to mind?
5. 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:

6. Reflect on [Matthew 7:1-5](#) How does this apply to Simon Peter's treatment of Matthew? Is there an area of your life today where this passage applies?

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](#).
- In this YouTube [video](#) Brandon Robbins explains the various levels of education for Jewish boys in Jesus' time. Simon Peter references this when he says "*I don't think any of us went to midrash.*"

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. This YouTube [video](#) provides Dallas Jenkin's commentary on how they prepared for the one continuous shot 15 minute opening scene.
2. More formally: *bet midrash*. This was the highest level of education for Jewish boys, and was only available to the "best of the best of the best". The various levels of education for Jewish boys in Jesus' time are explained by Brandon Robins in this YouTube [video](#). Pastor Robbins explains *bet midrash* starting at 6:30 in the video.