

The Chosen – Season 2 - Episode 6

Unlawful



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:

- >Healing a man with a withered hand
– [Luke 6:6-11](#)
- >The law of the Lord is perfect – [Psalm 19:7](#)
- >For I desire mercy not sacrifice – [Hosea 6:6](#)
- >Healing on the Sabbath – [Matthew 12:1-18](#)
- >Eating consecrated bread – [1 Samuel 21:1-9](#)
[Mark 2:23-27](#)
- > Even to the tenth generation
– [Deuteronomy 23:3](#)

Synopsis:

In a sentence: Through the encouragement and support of others Mary returns to the group; bad news is received about John the Baptist; food runs out for the disciples; Jesus continues to run afoul of the Pharisees.

The episode begins in 1008 BC Israel where we see the future king David taking the Holy Bread of the Presence to feed his men who haven't eaten in days.

After the opening credits we see Simon and Matthew searching for Mary. When they eventually find her Mary feels she cannot return to Jesus as she has so greatly let him down. Rama wonders why Jesus

just doesn't simply bring Mary back. Jesus' mother tells her "it doesn't work that way". Thomas is concerned as food has run out for the disciples and wonders why Jesus just simply doesn't make food appear. Bad news is received about John the Baptist – he has been taken into custody, in Herod's most heavily guarded prison - Big James and John discuss breaking him out by force. The Pharisees not only scheme to destroy Jesus, but also scheme against their own leaders. Jesus's mother takes Mary to Jesus, standing with her as Jesus welcomes Mary back and encourages her. Jesus runs afoul of the Pharisees as he heals a man with a withered hand and, later, encourages his disciples to eat from a field of grain – both happen on the Sabbath when such activities are explicitly forbidden.

Memorable lines of dialogue:

David to the priest: "Life is more sacred than bread."

Rama to Jesus' mother: "If his time has come, why doesn't he just bring Mary back."

Mary to Rama: "It doesn't work that way."

Rama to Mary: "Then how does it work?"

Mary to Rama: "Sometimes he is as much a mystery to me as he is to you."

Thomas to Andrew: "He can make people walk. He can heal lepers. Why can't he make food appear out of thin air?"

Big James to John: "I actually don't understand most of this. Just pieces here and there ... I'm just following."

Matthew to Mary Magdalene: "He saved you to do all these things."

Jesus to Mary: "It's good to have you back."
Mary to Jesus: "I'm so ashamed."

Jesus to Mary: "The Father just wants your heart. The rest will come in time."

Jesus to the disciples: "Have you noticed that no matter where we go these days we are more and more misunderstood?"

Jesus to the disciples: "It grieves me that Mary was not welcome in the synagogue in Jericho when she was in distress."
Simon in response: "They turned her away?"

Jesus to Simon: "Add to that, with John's arrest ... you could say I'm feeling nostalgic for a small town."

The priests to Jesus: "If he was supposed to be healed God would have healed him."
Jesus to the priests: "That's an interesting point."

Jesus to the priests: "I desire mercy, not justice."

Jesus to the priests: The Sabbath was made for man; not man for the Sabbath."

Watch for this:



[Starting at 0:59]

Illustrating [1 Samuel 21:1-9](#) David takes the holy bread to feed his men.



[Starting at 20:00]

Simon Peter and Matthew find Mary and help her begin her return to Jesus.



[Starting at 28:00]

Mary returns to Jesus supported by Jesus' mother.



[Starting at 35:15]

Jesus heals a man's withered hand much to the displeasure of the priests.



[Starting at 37:39]

The disciples eating a few handfuls of grain on the Sabbath infuriates the priests.

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. Jesus sent Simon and Matthew to find Mary. Reflecting back on your life, was there a person(s) Jesus sent to find you in the darkness? Share your story if comfortable doing so.
3. Do you have a Sabbath practice(s) that renews or refreshes you?
4. As a child growing up, were there things you couldn't do because "it's Sunday".
5. *"Scandalous! Who does he think he is!"*¹

Why do you think the priests were so infuriated when Jesus healed the man with the withered hand, not only on the Sabbath, but right in the synagogue?

6. If you could ask Jesus “Why don’t you just do _____”, what would you put in the blank? What do you think he would say in reply?
7. 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:

8. **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](#).

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. From Lakeside Church Pastor Robyn Elliot’s sermon (*The Church’s Family Name*) on October 24, 2021. You can watch it [here](#).