



The CHOSEN

Season 5. Episode Three. Discussion Guide

For Churches

For the Leader

Dive deeper into Season 5 of The Chosen with your group!

We've created these episode guides to help you lead meaningful discussions following each episode of The Chosen.

As you watch, discuss, and pray together, we hope these questions help your group unpack what they've seen and dig deeper into the Bible.

Main Characters

Jesus – The Messiah, central figure; challenges leaders, shares Last Supper.

Rabbi Shmuel – Pharisee, Sanhedrin member, opposes Jesus.

Rabbi Yusef – Pharisee, Sanhedrin, defends Jesus.

Pharisees & Sadducees – Two religious groups, together make up the Sanhedrin, who want to remove Jesus.

Judas – Disciple, hopes Jesus unites with the leaders to overthrow Rome.

Andrew – Disciple who takes the lead in the parable of the vineyard owner.

Peter, James, John – Disciples of Jesus who accompany Him to the Mount of Olives.

Caiaphas – High priest and official leader of the Sanhedrin.

Matthew – Disciple of Jesus, official recorder of events, and ardent defender of Jesus' actions, even when he doesn't understand them.

Mary of Magdala – Disciple who listens closely to His words; Jesus had cast demons out of her. She seeks help to protect Jesus.

Atticus – Roman police member over soldiers, concerned about a possible riot over Jesus.

Pilate – Roman ruler overseeing Jerusalem and area, pressured to maintain peace.

Kofni – Jewish person dedicated to exposing Jesus as a false prophet, blames Jesus and Thomas for his daughter Rhema's death, with a small following.

Thomas – One of the twelve disciples of Jesus, associated in Kofni's story.

Simon the Zealot (Zee) – One of the twelve disciples, trained as a resistance fighter, serves as Jesus' bodyguard, though Jesus says He doesn't need one.

Zebedee – Father of James and John, a follower of Jesus but not among the twelve.

David – The shepherd boy Jesus sees and hears playing the harp.

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Introduction

At the Last Supper, Jesus comforts His troubled disciples by assuring them of a place in His Father's house and promising the coming of the Holy Spirit, while foretelling difficult times ahead. Flashbacks of His dramatic cleansing of the temple lead to confrontations with religious leaders, and the resulting debates among the Pharisees and Sadducees about His authority and intentions, as well as their attempts to entrap Him with challenging questions. The disciples, especially Judas and Mary of Magdala, struggle to understand Jesus' actions and teachings, wrestling with doubt and confusion.

As tensions rise, Jesus delivers parables and teachings that challenge both religious and political expectations, further dividing those around Him. The episode concludes with Jesus sharing final warnings with His closest followers on the Mount of Olives, expressing sorrow over Jerusalem, and experiencing a mysterious vision of David, symbolizing both His own loneliness and the approaching fulfillment of His mission.

Discuss

1. Jesus promises His disciples the Holy Spirit as a source of comfort and guidance, yet they seem to struggle with understanding this promise. Reflecting on times in your own life, can you recall moments when reassurance or comfort was hard to accept, even from a trusted source? Why do you think that happens?
2. Rabbi Shmuel seems to believe that any means are justified as long as the outcome glorifies God. Do you think it's ever acceptable to bend the rules in pursuit of what you believe to be a good or holy result? How have you seen this question play out in your own experience or in your community?

Discuss

3. If you had been present as one of the merchants whose table Jesus overturned, how do you imagine you would have responded to Him? Would you have been open to His message after such an event, or would you have felt resentment? Why?
4. When Jesus asks Matthew what he seeks most, Matthew replies, "Above all, I seek You." Looking back over your own life, how would you describe the things you have sought most? Do you identify with Matthew's answer?
5. Between the two greatest commandments—loving God and loving your neighbor—which do you find has been more challenging to live out over the years? Can you share a time when one was particularly difficult?
6. Jesus criticizes the scribes and teachers of the law in strong terms. In your experience, how does speaking out against wrongdoing differ from slander or gossip? Where do you draw the line?

Prayer

Gracious God, as we reflect on the life and teachings of Jesus, grant us open hearts to receive your wisdom and courage to seek truth in all we do. May your Spirit guide us in loving you and our neighbors more deeply, and help us to walk with humility, compassion, and faith each day. Strengthen us to live out your message with grace and conviction, trusting always in your presence. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

