

The Chosen Episode Two:

Shabbat

Quick Summary:

The Sabbath from different perspectives. In this episode we see Jesus perform a miracle that the holy leaders cannot. We also get a little more background on the difficulties of being Jewish and living under Roman rule. A moving episode.

Read for Bible Study:

Deuteronomy 5:12-14 (The Sabbath); Matthew 18:15-17 (Resolving conflict, tax collectors);

Matthew 17:24-27 (Jesus and Tax Collectors)

The Chosen Discussion Questions:

1. Reread Exodus 20:8-11. What is the origin of Sabbath day rest?
2. What promise did God make to His chosen people in Isaiah 43:2?
3. How does the wording of this verse relate to Exodus 14:26-31? Joshua 3:14-17? Daniel 3:1-28?
4. The One who made the wilderness was the One leading the Israelites through it. How does meditating on God as the Creator change the way you look at impossible things?
5. When it comes to practicing your own Sabbath day rest, which character do you relate to the most and why?
6. Psalm 46:10 says "Be still and know that I am God". How would meditating on God have impacted Mary's healing process? Nicodemus's priorities? Matthew's striving? Simon's impatience or confusion?

7. Keeping the Sabbath is most obviously marked by not working. But God's primary intention behind the commandment is to spend the day like Mary Magdalene did – to enter into his presence. What needs to change in your schedule or in your mind-set to rest the way God intended?

8. Jesus's promise in Matthew 11:28-30 is reminiscent of the promise in Isaiah 43:2, in that Jesus doesn't say there will be no responsibilities or hardship ("yoke" or "burden"). Instead, He stays with us and provides a way through. How does knowing that impact the way you feel about or respond to your circumstances?

9. Fill in the blank: God is with me in _____.

10. Reread Psalm 56:8; Matthew 10:30; Luke 12:7; Romans 5:8; and Revelation 21:4. Which of these verses bring you feelings of rest, peace, and hope? Why?

PRAYER FOCUS

Give thanks to for the soul rest He offers through Jesus Christ. Give thanks to Him for daily provisions like food, clothes, shelter and friends. Thank Him that HIS presence allows you to endure and overcome hard circumstances this side of eternity. Ask Jesus to teach you more and more how to rest in His presence. Tell Him how excited you are for the perfect and pain-free rest that awaits us in heaven.