

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE APOSTLES OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



THE CHOSEN SERIES 1 CAN BE VIEWED ON VIDANGEL BY CLICKING HERE



[Disclaimer: The Chosen creates a fictionalised back-story for some characters, with some dialogue not found in the Bible; however, these are not inconsistent with Christian understanding of the characters or events in the Gospels. For more detail on each episode, check out the Biblical Roundtable Discussion Videos on The Chosen website.



"() was one way,
and now () are
completely different,
and the thing
in between...
was Him."

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#BingeJesus #Oget Ased To Different



We meet Mary Magdalene (also known as "Lilith") who struggles with demons. Other characters include Nicodemus (a Pharisee) who attempts to perform an exorcism on Mary/Lilith. We are also introduced to Matthew, the tax collector. The problem of unpaid taxes has big consequences for the fishermen brothers, Simon and Andrew.

Episode Resources:

page 2	• Summary Reflection Playlist
page 3	• Episode 1 Comprehension Questions
page 5	• Doodle Prayer: I have called you by name
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CHOSEN Episode 1: I Have Called You by Name



SUMMARY:

We meet Mary Magdalene (also known as "Lilith") who struggles with demons. Other characters include Nicodemus (a Pharisee) who attempts to perform an exorcism on Mary/Lilith. We are also introduced to Matthew, the tax collector. The problem of unpaid taxes has big consequences for the fishermen brothers, Simon and Andrew.



REFLECT ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Who did you meet in this episode?
- Which character can you relate to the most? Who do you struggle to identify with?
- What struck you the most from this week's episode?
- Were you surprised or challenged by anything? **MEDITATE:** Scripture Passage(s) for this week: Isaiah 43: 1-3 | Luke 8:2 | Mark 16:9 Note any words or phrases that stand out to you. ACT: What is it you think the Lord is calling you to do this week?

Suggested Playlist for the Week: Click title to watch on You Tube

- Who You Say I Am (Hillsong) • Be Still My Soul (Kari Jobe)
- *Jesus, what a Saviour* (Housefires)
- You are Mine (David Haas)
- *The Father's Song* (I am Yours)
- *Healing from the Wound of Sin* (Fr Mike Schmitz)











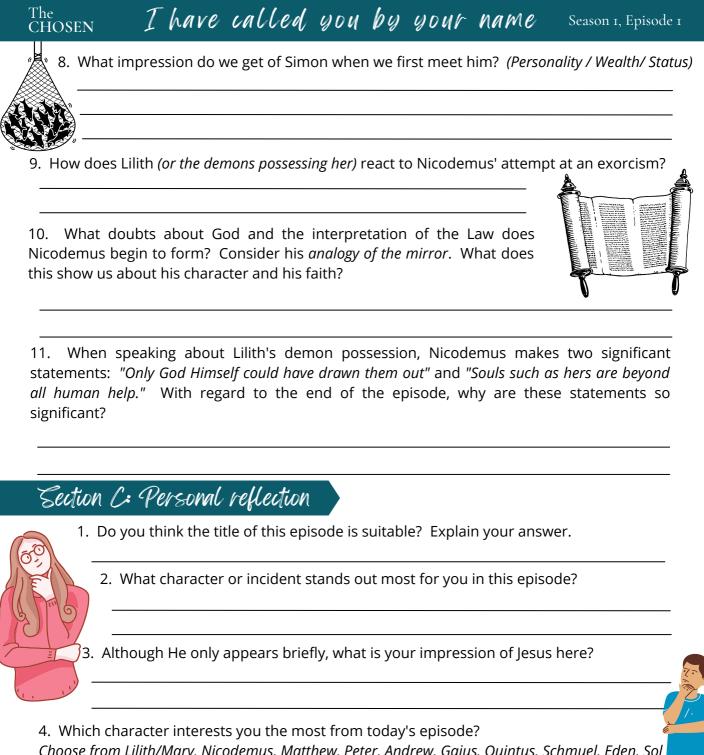


The CHOSEN Season 1, Episode 1



Section A: Before watching the episode, reflect on the following:

 What do you already know about the character of Mary Magdalene? We come to mind when you hear her name? Do you know anything about her 	_
2. How many of the twelve apostles can you name? What do you know ab	out any of them?
Section B: Watch the episode and answer the questions t	that follow:
1. Where and when does the first flashback take place?	, BC.
2. Finish the quote from the prophet Isaiah: "Fear not for I have called you by, you are"	you, I have
impression created? (Setting / Lighting / Camera angles / Movement / Costume 4. What words would you use to describe the sentiment (feelings) between	
the Jews at this time? Cite three pieces of evidence from the episode today	
SENTIMENT:	
5. Who do you think the <i>"rogue preacher in the wilderness" (</i> Quintus to Nicod <i>"your bug-eating friend</i> " (Simon to Andrew) could be a reference to?	demus)
5. What impression of Matthew do we get when we first meet him? (Character / Habits / Preferences / Wealth / Status))	TAXES (L)
7. While do you think his driver calls him "the biggest pile of dung in all of Matthew so hated, as evidenced particularly in the Market scene?	Capernaum"? Why is



Choose from Lilith/Mary, Nicodemus, Matthew, Peter, Andrew, Gaius, Quintus, Schmuel, Eden, Sol

5. What is it about their character that interests you? _____

6. If you could ask them one question, based on today's episode, what would it be?

Section D: Unscramble the character / place names!

THMEATW ODUSNICEM MOSIN AEWNDR CERNUMAPA GAADMLA



The Chosen humour! Andrew tells Simon it was best he didn't try to run away from the Romans, considering how he runs! Look up <u>Tohn 20:3-4</u> and make the connection!





Allow yourself some space to sit and reflect. You might prefer to play some music in the background, or just sit in silence. Reflect on *Isaiah 43:1* below. Allow ideas, thoughts and images that come to you as you pray to form part of your doodle prayer. What are the areas of your life you need to invite God into? What situations, relationships do you need His help with? What decisions do you have to make? Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your heart and your thoughts. This is a particular space you are creating for God in your life today. Speak, and listen.

Fear not for I have redeemed You I have CA name,

ISAIAH 43:1



DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR NAME MEANS? IF NOT, LOOK IT UP!
DO YOU THINK THE MEANING SUITS YOU? EXPLAIN

THE NAME MARY COMES FROM THE HEBREW "MIRIAM", WHICH MEANS BELOVED.

RESEARCH THE MEANING OF THE NAME LILITH? HOW IS THIS SIGNIFICANT FOR EPISODE 1 OF "THE CHOSEN"?

MEET SOME OTHER FAMOUS MARYS!

Click the links to learn more about them. What strikes you the most about their lives?



MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



ST MARY OF EGYPT



SAINT MARIA GORETTI

CHECK OUT THESE OTHER SAINTS WHO ADDED THE NAME MARY TO THEIR OWN

Click the links to learn more about them. What strikes you the most about their lives?





ST JOSEMARIA ESCRIVA



ST LOUIS MARIE DE MONTFORT

HOW CAN SAINTS LIKE THESE HELP AND INSPIRE YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY? REFLECT/DISCUSS.



Her Snobb

• In The Chosen Season 1 Episode 1, Mary of Magdala (Lilith) rediscovers who she really is when Jesus calls her by her name, and heals her of her demonic possession, enabling her to live a full and free life again.



Pretend that you are Mary of Magdala reflecting that night on the whirlwind events of that day. Write (or record) a diary entry. Use the following questions to guide you.

- · How did you feel prior to meeting Jesus?
- · Had you lost hope? Why?
- · How did you feel about yourself?
- How did others see you?
- · What did you long for more than anything?
- · How did the encounter take place?
- How did you feel in the moment?
- · What was said?
- Why was it so significant?
- How do you feel now?

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Andrew / Capernaum / Centurion / chosen / Demons / Fisherman / Gaius /
Galilee / healing / Isaiah / Mary / Magdala / Matthew / Nazareth / Nicodemus /
Simon / Roman / Tax collector / Possession / Pharisee / Prophet / Rabbi /
redeemed / sabbath / scroll / Shabbat / The Law

QUICK FIRE QUIZ!

Choose at least ten of the words / phrases in the list above and work as a team to explain how they relate to Season 1, Episode 1 of "The Chosen" as quickly as you can. Who can explain the most words?





In this episode we see Jesus perform a miracle that the holy leaders cannot understand. We also get a little more background on the difficulties of being Jewish and living under Roman rule. We watch different characters prepare for and celebrate Shabbat.*

* Note: Shabbat is often translated in English as 'Sabbath."

Episode Resources:

page 10	• Summary Reflection Playlist
page 11	• Episode 2 Comprehension Questions
page 13	• The Name of Jesus
page 14	• Understanding Shabbat
page 15	• Shabbat Meal Venn Diagram
page 16	• Challah Bread Recipe

CHOSEN Episode 2: Shabbat



Summary:

In this episode we see Jesus perform a miracle that the holy leaders cannot understand. We also get a little more background on the difficulties of being Jewish and living under Roman rule. We watch different characters prepare for and celebrate Shabbat.*

* Note: Shabbat is often translated in English as 'Sabbath."



Reflect on any of the following questions:

- What struck you the most from this week's episode?
- What surprised or challenged you?
- What role does "meal" play in this episode? What role do meals have in your life?
- What aspect of Jesus was highlighted by this episode / encounter? Meditate: Scripture Passage(s) for this week: Genesis 2:3 | Exodus 20:7–10 | Proverbs 31:10-31 Note any words or phrases that stand out to you. Act: What is it you think the Lord is calling you to do this week?

Suggested Playlist for the Week:

- You invite me in (Meredith Andrews)
- Waymaker (Leeland)
- The Blessing (Kari Jobe)
- Blessed be Your Name (Matt Redman)

Click title to watch on You Tube

- So Will I (100 Billion X) Hillsong
- BibleProject: Sabbath
- Fr Mike Schmitz: Why do Jews and Christians have different Sabbath Days?















God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it fle rested from all the work fle had done in creation. Genesis 2:3

Section A: Before watching the episode, reflect on the following:

Scalary 1. Defer a sould made the obased of the boconsaid.
1. What do you know about Jewish religious traditions? Have you heard the words <i>Sabbath</i> , <i>Passover</i> or <i>Shalom</i> before? Can you name any celebrities who are Jewish?
w S.
2. Do you have any family traditions around meal times in your family? What about Christmas dinner, or Easter time, or birthdays?
Section B: Watch the episode and answer the questions that follow:
1. Where and when does the first flashback take place?, BC.
2. Shabbat is a time <i>to rest</i> , and also <i>to honour three things</i> : list those three things here:
3. What are the Hebrew words for Mom and Dad? E and A
4. What three reasons are given for resting on the Sabbath Day?
2
3
5. Four Old Testament women are mentioned in the opening blessing:
S, R, L and R
(Extra: Choose one to research: Who are they and why are they remembered still by Jewish people?)
6. Complete the Shabbat prayer: Blessed are you, Lord our God, of the Universe, from all His work that God created to, He creates the fruit of the Amen
7. Why does the hairdresser say that only the woman's husband Ananias will see her hairstyle, do you think?
8. What role does Quintus the Praetor have in the region?
9. What does Quintus find so unusual about Matthew?

The CHOSEN Season 1, Episode 2

10. What drove Simon to even consider selling out fellow merchants to Quintus?	
11. Why does Nicodemus ask for time to investigate the miracle regarding Mary of Magdala?	
12. Why is Andrew so bothered by Simon's plan?	
13. What impression of Nicodemus' wife, Zohara, is created in this episode (& Episode 1)?	,
14. What do we learn about Matthew's family situation in this episode?	ļ
15. Mary still doesn't understand how she was healed, but she sums it up for Nicodemus in this way: "I was one way, and now I am completely different, and the thing that happened in between,"	
16. What seems to trouble Nicodemus about the way he is treated as a Pharisee?	
17. We see the Shabbat meal from four perspectives (Mary, Nicodemus, Simon's household, and Matthew). Which one would you most like to have attended, and why?	
18. Which four new future apostles have we been introduced to in this episode?	
Section C: Personal reflection	
1. Although He only appears again briefly in this episode, what is your impression of Jesus here?	
2. Which character interests you the most from today's episode? Choose from Mary, Nicodemus, Matthew, Peter, Andrew, or Eden 3. What about their character interests you?	
4. If you could ask that character one question, based on today's episode, what would it be and why?	\ -





DO YOU KNOW THE MEANINGS OF ANY OF THESE IRISH NAMES: "AISLING", "SAOIRSE", "RÓISÍN", "FIONN"?

	JESUS IS KNOWN AND PRAYED TO BY HUNDREDS OF NAMES? PICK ANY TEN OF THE FOLLOWING WHEN WE KNOW THE MEANING OF THEM, IT CAN HELP OUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHO JESUS IS!
JESUS: in Ar	amaic, "Yeshua" meaning God saves, because Jesus came as our Saviour
EMMMANUEL:	meaning God-with-us, because Jesus is God incarnate
ALPHA & OMEGA	
REDEEMER:	
LORD:	
	THE GOOD SHEPHERD: THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE:
	LAMB OF GOD:
	SON OF DAVID:
W	SON OF MAN:
TRUE VINE:	
SON OF GOD:	
MEDIATOR:	
THE WORD:	
THE MESSIAH /	THE CHRIST:
THE LIGHT OF TH	E WORLD:
יותוני	THE PRINCE OF PEACE:
NKI	KING OF THE JEWS:

The CHOSEN Season 1, Episode 2

Macestanding Sunday

WATCH THE SHORT VIDEO EXPLAINING THE PURPOSE AND PRACTICALITIES OF SHABBAT TODAY AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:



What is Shabbat? Intro to the Jewish Sabbath (BimBam)

1.	Why is keeping Shabbat seen as the single most important building block of living a Jewish life?

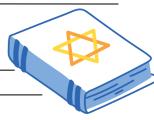
2. At Shabbat, Jewish people set aside the time they usually spend doing errands for what purpose?



- 3. What three things does Shabbat connect a person to?
- 4. How many categories of "creating work" that you are supposed to refrain from on Shabbat are defined by Jewish Law?
- 5. Give two modern examples of what people might refrain from doing to keep Shabbat.



- 6. Give three examples of what people might do to *keep* Shabbat?
- 7. Pick two words from the list and look up their meaning: **Challah** | **Havdalah** | **Shalom** | **Torah** | **Rabbi**



WHY DO CHRISTIANS CELEBRATE SUNDAY AS THEIR HOLY DAY?



For Christians, Sunday is seen as the holy day, not Saturday (Sabbath) because the Resurrection of Jesus and the beginning of Creation had both occurred on the first day of the week (Sunday). *Did you know that Christians also call Sunday "the Eighth day"?*



Catechism of the Catholic Church #349: "But for us a new day has dawned: the day of Christ's Resurrection. The seventh day completes the first creation. The eighth day begins the new creation. Thus, the work of creation culminates in the greater work of redemption. The first creation finds its meaning and its summit in the new creation in Christ, the splendour of which surpasses that of the first creation."

Reflect

Do you have a specific time in the week that you set aside for rest and for sacred things? A time where you set aside your phone, focus on the important things in life? Do you go to weekly mass or set aside time for prayer?

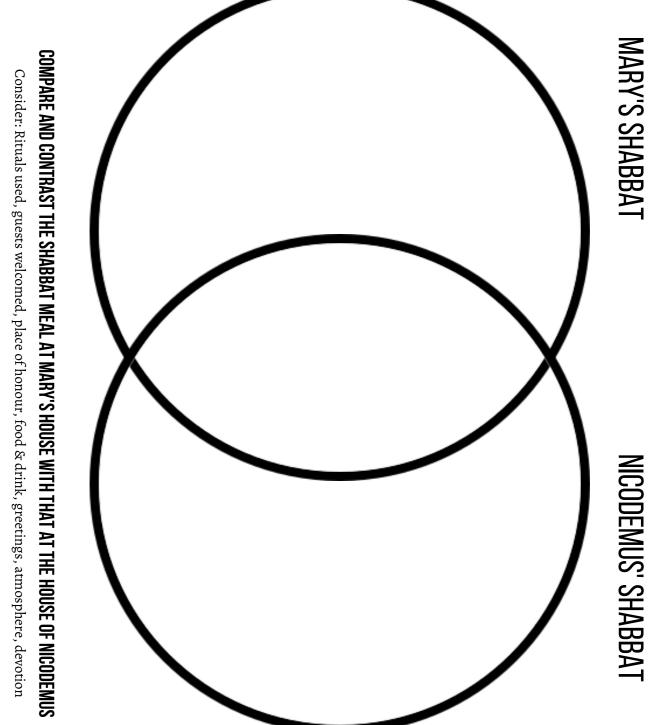


"It is not things that lend significance to a moment, it is the moment that lends significance to things."









Which one would you rather attend, and why?

What do you think the main cause of the differences is?





Blessed are You, 9 Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

Challah is a traditional plaited bread eaten on Shabbat, the Jewish sabbath as well as major Jewish holidays

Ingredients:

- 500g strong white bread flour, (plus a little extra for dusting)
- 70g caster sugar
- 2 tsp fine salt
- 7g sachet fast-action dried yeast
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 70ml sunflower oil, (plus a little extra for the bowl)
- poppy seeds or sesame seeds to sprinkle (if desired!)

usting)

Method:

- 1. Combine the yeast, a pinch of sugar and a few tablespoons of lukewarm water in a small bowl. Stir until the yeast is dissolved, then leave for 10 mins until foamy in appearance.
- 2. Combine the flour, the rest of the sugar and 2 teaspoons of salt in a large bowl. Make a well in the centre, then add half the beaten egg, the yeast mixture and the sunflower oil.
- 3. Pour in 200ml lukewarm water and stir with a spoon, then mix using one hand, to bring the dough together. Add a little more water if the dough is too dry, just enough to bring it together. The dough should not be soggy.
- 4. Once the dough has come together, turn it out onto a lightly floured surface. Knead using both hands for 10 mins until smooth and a little springy to the touch. If it gets too sticky, add a tiny amount of flour. Stretch the sides of the dough down and pull together to form a ball. Lightly oil a bowl with sunflower oil, then lightly coat the dough ball with oil by rolling it around the bowl.
- 5. Cover with a clean tea towel and leave to sit in a warm place for 1 hour, or until dough has doubled in size.
- 6. Line a baking sheet with grease-proof paper. Turn the dough out onto a clean work surface and divide into three equal pieces, (use a weighing scales to check!).
- 7. Roll each piece into a long sausage shape about 25cm long, tapering them slightly so they are thinner at both ends. Lay the pieces out in front of you, parallel to one another with a couple centimetres gap between each. Bring the pieces together at the top end, then plait them down the length of the loaf, tucking in the ends when you reach the bottom. Carefully transfer the loaf to your prepared baking sheet and loosely cover with a clean tea towel. Leave to rise until puffy, about 40 mins.
- 8. Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/Gas 6. Gently brush the rest of the beaten egg all over the challah, including into all the crevices, and sprinkle with the seeds, if using. Bake on a middle shelf of the oven for 25-30 minutes, until the loaf is golden brown underneath and sounds hollow when tapped. Check after about 15 minutes if the top of the loaf has started to get too brown, cover it with foil.
- 9. Leave to cool on a wire rack, then serve.

Check out another simple Challah recipe from The Cooking Foodie on YouTube







Jesus meets a group of children, introducing them to his carpentry skills, prayer, and His sense of humour.

Episode Resources:

• Summary | Reflection | Playlist

• Episode 3 Comprehension Questions

page 21 • Understanding Shema

page 23 • Are you an Influencer?

CHOSEN Episode 3: Jesus loves the little children



Summary:

Jesus meets a group of children, introducing them to his carpentry skills, prayer, and His sense of humour.



Reflect on any of the following questions:

- What aspect of this Gospel story took on a new meaning for you?
- What aspect of Jesus was highlighted by this episode / encounter?
- Have you ever imagined the backstory of scripture in this way? How does it feel?
- What was your relationship like with Jesus when you were a child? Meditate: Scripture Passage(s) for this week: <u>Luke 18: 15-17</u> | Deuteronomy 6:4-9 Note any words or phrases that stand out to you. Act: What is it you think the Lord is calling you to do this week?

Suggested Playlist for the Week:

Click title to watch on You Tube

- Simplicity (Rend Collective)
- Children of God (Phil Wickham)
- Child of God (Kathryn Sarah Scott)
- Love the Lord your God (Lincoln Brewster)
- Shema: BibleProject
- Jackie Francois: How to be true children of God













The CHOSEN Season I, Episode 3

cesus coves the little Childen

Truly Itell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the Kingdom of heaven. (Mt 18:3)

Section A: Before watching the episode, reflect on the following:

What was the best toy you ever received as a child? Why did you like it so much?



Can you think of any stories from the Gospels that show the human nature of Jesus very clearly e.g. the Agony in the Garden?

Section B: Watch the episode and answer the questions that follow:

- 1. Where and when do the events of this episode take place? ______, ____BC
- 2. Why do you think prayer was such an intense experience for Jesus?
- 3. Throughout the episode we are introduced to the humanity of Jesus very clearly: e.g. Jesus experiences hunger. What other signs of the limitations of His human nature can you spot in this episode?



- 4. Cite an example from this episode that shows that Jesus' sense of humour!
- 5. Abigail mentions that she saw a tool at the camp-site she had never seen before? What could this suggest about Jesus as a craftsman?
- 6. When Jesus creates the lock and key, he looks at it and says, "It is good". How might this parallel with <u>Genesis 1:31</u>?
 - 7. What do you notice Jesus does before He eats and sleeps? Is this something you have seen others do in The Chosen series? Why do you think this is done?
 - 8. Jesus claims that He is dangerous "maybe to some", but "won't harm anyone?" Who could Jesus possibly pose a risk to and what danger might he pose?

The CHOSEN

Jesus loves the Little Children

Season 1, Episode 3



9. Jesus tells the children that His favourite food is bread. Why do you think He chooses bread? What title does He later give himself in the Gospels related to this? (John 6:35,48)



10. Fill in the blanks for the Shema (from <u>Deuteronomy 6:4-6</u>):	
"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with	all your
and with all yourand with all your And these wo	-
I command youshall be on your heart."	
11. Why do you think the sight of little children praying these words makes Jesus emot	ional?
	dents."
(Jesus) What four instructions / commands does Jesus give the children?	
- to show love to	
- to take God's and to share it	
- to honour their to love the Lord their God with all	
- to love the Lord their God with all	
the new teacher at the synagogue, a new prophet, smart, a good man, and a criminal. Choose any one of these guesses and explain a link between it and the true mission e.g. Jesus was not a murderer, but He was put to death like a criminal.	າ of Jesus
4. Jesus tries to teach the children a number of important lessons at the end about	
 a) Messianic expectation, b) justice and c) the reason He is here. Choose one and explain in your own words what He taught the children. 	
Section C: Personal reflection	
1. What is your impression of Jesus in this episode? Does anything surprise you?	
2. What kind of questions do the children ask Jesus?	

you ask Him, and why?

3. If you had the opportunity to question Jesus, like Abigail and Joshua, what would

The CHOSEN Season I, Episode 3

Maler Standing Event

RITUALS:

Have you ever watched the New Zealand Rugby team, the All Blacks, perform the Haka before a match? For them, the haka is an important ritual, a ceremonial Māori war dance or challenge. The Haka is usually performed in a group and symbolises a tribe's pride, strength and unity. They stomp their feet, stick out their tongues, perform rhythmic body slapping, all accompanied by a loud chant: it is all as much part of All Black rugby as the game of rugby itself!

DISCUSS: What kind of other rituals can you think of, inside or outside the sporting world?



WATCH THE SHORT VIDEO EXPLAINING THE SHEMA AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:



Watch Shema - Listen (BibleProject)

your	and with all your	and with all your	And
these words th	at I command you	shall be on your heart." (Deut	6:4-6)
1. Why have	the Jews prayed the words of th	e Shema for thousands of years?	
	. Where does the name of the p	rayer, Shema , come from?	
it		ar (as in, letting sound waves enter yout the standard of the	
 I. Asking God to	shema means asking God to		·
		, God asking people to Shema (she	
5. In Hebrew the	ere is no separate word for "obey	y" - true or false?	1
•	when the Israelites broke the Co have ears but they don't listen."?	ovenant, why did the prophets say	
3. Listening in th	e Bible is about respecting		

9. Real listening takes two things: ______

UNDERSTANDING SHEMA

Season 1, Episode 3

JEWISH ROOTS IN CATHOLIC TRADITION:



- Many Jews say the **Shema** every morning and evening.
- The Shema is regarded by many Jews as the most important prayer in Judaism. This is because it reminds them of the **key principle of the faith** there is only one God.
- In many homes, words from the Shema are kept in a *mezuzah*, a box nailed to the doorpost or gate, which they touch when entering their home.
- A common Catholic prayer / ritual is the *Sign of the Cross*, made in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, reminding Catholics of their *core belief in the Trinity*, one God in three persons.



- Catholics touch their foreheads, heart and shoulders as they bless themselves.
- The shape of the cross reminds Catholics how much God loves them, that Jesus died on a cross for them.
- Touching their forehead, heart and arms could also be a reminder to renew their commitment to loving and serving God with their whole heart, mind and strength.
- Many Catholics have a holy water font inside the door of their home, which they dip their fingers in and bless themselves with the water as they leave their house, making the sign of the cross.



THINK ABOUT IT:

During Mass, before the Gospel is read, Catholics make a small sign of the cross on their forehead, lips and over their heart as they say "Glory to You, O Lord" in response to "A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint.....".

What significance does this gesture have?

Reflect

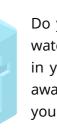
Do you have any rituals to begin and end your day? Simple things that you always do?



Do you have, or have you ever had, a habit of beginning and ending your day with a simple prayer ritual? Maybe it is something you could start or add to? It could be as simple as making the sign of the cross, or praying a Glory Be, or asking God to bless your day in the morning, and offering that day back to Him at bed time.







Do you have a holy water font in your home? Or even a bottle of holy water near the front door? Did you know you can usually get holy water in your own local church? Sometimes they even provide bottles to take away. Maybe you could invite your local priest to bless some water for your class / youth group and explain the ritual involved in blessing it too!

Discuss

Gestures and rituals are necessary to help focus our minds, especially in prayer.

The you an Intuencer?

"It anyone wants to be tirst he must make himselt last of all and servant of all"

?	WHAT CHARACTERISTICS DO YOU THINK A GREAT LEADER SHOU	JLD HAVE?
W.		
	T ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW:	
7	Fr Mike explains that each of us has influence over that we should ask ourselves two questions:	r someone and because of
المسال	1.How are you	them?
	2.Where are you	them?
What ki	nd of man was John Paul II's father?	
Describ	e how he influenced his son to be a Man of God?	
		CLICK HERE FOR A SHORT VIDEO OF THE LIFE OF POPE JOHN PAUL II
	If we want those we have influence over to become version of themselves), what do we need to ask of	_

HOW DOES A QUESTION LIKE THAT MAKE YOU FEEL? IS IT AN UNCOMFORTABLE QUESTION?

IF YES, WHY DO YOU THINK THAT COULD BE?

ARE YOU AN INFLUENCER?

MARK 9:30--37

Who is the Prototype for Christians (with a capital P!) - the model for how to live?

What did St Paul advise the Corinthians to do in his letter to them? Check 1 Corinithians 11:1

If we don't think we're living in a way that will help others to become saints if they model their lives on us, what should we do about it, according to Fr Mike?

Remember, today for the people you influence, you're the p_____!



Now Read Mark 9:30-37

In this Gospel Passage, Jesus is trying to teach His disciples that He must suffer and be put to death before rising again. Yet again, His disciples fail to grasp what He is talking about. Instead they squabble amongst themselves about which of them is the greatest, ironically completely missing Jesus' example of the greatest act of love and humility Jesus' death on the Cross will be.

Jesus is very clear with them, that the greatest must be the least, the most humble, the most serving. Jesus uses the example of welcoming a little child to explain His point. In that culture, children had no status or power. Serving others rather than seeking power is the way of life Jesus models for us. It has been said that Christians like to talk about being servants until they are treated like one! Jesus calls us to humility, service and love however.



THIS WEEK, REFLECT ON THE INFLUENCE YOU HAVE ON OTHERS IN THEIR LIVES. IS THERE ONE ASPECT OF YOUR LIFE YOU CAN CHOOSE TO FOCUS ON, TO ELEVATE, SO THAT IF SOMEONE WAS TO MODEL THEIR LIFE ON YOURS, IT WOULD HELP THEM BECOME THE BEST VERSION OF THEMSELVES, TO BECOME A GREAT SAINT? EACH EVENING REFLECT BACK ON HOW THE DAY WENT AND ASK THE LORD TO HELP YOU IN THE DAYS AHEAD.



THE LITANY OF HUMILITY: (BONUS SECTION OF "THE CHOSEN" RESOURCE)

Try praying the Litany of Humility, attributed to Cardinal Merry Del Val. It's definitely not easy or comfortable, but it can really help us to see where our priorities and desires lie, and how to live out service and humility in all aspects of our lives! (You can also use the two song versions below to help you!)



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON INFLUENCE THIS WEEK



- The Litany of Humility (Thomas Muglia)
- The Litany of Humility (Danielle Rose)
- When it's all been said and done (Robin Mark)
- Set the World on Fire (Britt Nicole)
- I Shall Not Want (Audrey Assad)
- Humble (Audrey Assad)
- This is our God (Tomlin)
- You have shown us (Baloche)

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!



Check out the Paving the Way Home Talk by 14:18 MINS Fr Patrick Cahill: "You are an Influencer"



Jack shares his testimony about how 4:20 MINS good friends turned his life around!



Jesus preaches to a crowd on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. A miraculous catch of fish leads some to follow Jesus and puzzles others. Nicodemus learns about John the Baptist preaching a bold message in the wilderness.

Episode Resources:

page 26	• Summary Reflection Playlist
page 27	• Episode 4 Comprehension Questions
page 29	• Waiting for the Messiah (Character Perspective)
page 30	• Cry of the Heart (Eden's prayer)
page 31	• Let Go and Let God Reflection
page 32	• Follow Me
page 33	• What is a Vocation?
page 34	• Fishers of Men (Vocations)
page 35	• Know your heart!

CHOSEN



Episode 4: The Rock on which it is built

Summary:

Jesus preaches to a crowd on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. A miraculous catch of fish leads some to follow Jesus and puzzles others. Nicodemus learns about John the Baptist preaching a bold message in the wilderness.



Reflect on any of the following questions:

- What struck you the most from this week's episode?
- What aspect of this Gospel story took on a new meaning for you?

Were you surprised or challenged by anything?
• Peter has to "let go and let God" and it isn't easy for him. Have you ever had a "come to
Jesus" moment into your life? How did it feel? What were the results?
Meditate:
Scripture Passage(s) for this week: Matthew 4:18-22 & Luke 5:1-11 Luke 4:38-41
Note any words or phrases that stand out to you.
Act:
What is it you think the Lord is calling you to do this week?

Suggested Playlist for the Week:

- Lord I Need You (Matt Maher)
- Fishers of Men (Newsboys)
- Today I Choose (Brian Doerksen)

Click title to watch on You Tube

- Blessed be your name (Matt Redman)
- Nothing I hold onto (Will Reagan & Utd Pursuit)
- What's my Vocation? (Fr Mike Schmitz)













The CHOSEN Season 1, Episode 4

The Rock on which It is will

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Tesus' Knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" LuKe 5:8

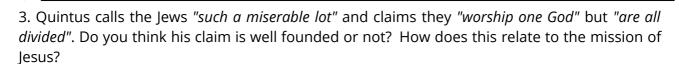
Section A: Before watching the episode, reflect on the following:

Do you find it easy to ask for help when you need it? Explain your answer.

What do you think the main causes of stress for young people are in today's world?

Section B: Watch the episode and answer the questions that follow:

- 1. How is the tense atmosphere created in the opening scene?
- 2. Pay attention to the opening credits. What happens to some of the fish?



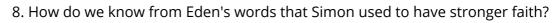
4. Matthew claims he is not accepted anywhere because he is a tax-collector. Why does he claim tax collectors are *more* hated than the Romans themselves.



5. Can you think of another Gospel story that deals with another hated tax-collector? How did Jesus / others treat him? (Luke 19:1-10)

6. Why are the religious leaders feeling so threatened by John the Baptist (with the exception of Nicodemus)?

7. Where has Eden seen evidence of Simon's lack of faith in his life?



9. Andrew believes the Messiah has come. What other name does he refer to Him as?

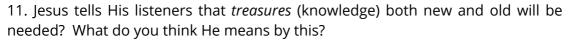
The CHOSEN

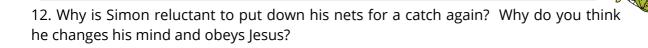
The Rock on which it is built

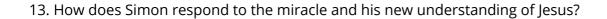
Season 1, Episode 4

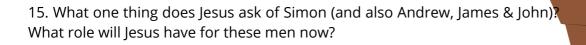


10. What parables does Jesus tell at the lakeshore?











- Simon's ear is cut by the sword of a roman soldier. (John 18:10)
- Matthew to Simon: "No-one listens to me, not like they do you. You have a singular talent." (Matthew 16:18)
- Simon: "If I go down, it'll be doing what God built me to do."
- Nicodemus: "We do not lightly turn Jews over to the Romans." (Caiaphas in <u>John 11:50</u>)
- John is the fastest runner and reaches Simon's boat first. (<u>John 20:4</u>)

Section C: Personal reflection

1. What is your impression of Jesus in this episode? Does anything surprise you?



- 2. Which character do you most identify with in this episode? Explain your answer. Choose from *Simon, Matthew, Eden, or Andrew.*
- 3. Why do you think the disciples left everything they had to follow Jesus, when so much was unknown about the future?







The next day Tohn saw Tesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! Tohn 1:29

As you watch Episode 4, "The Rock on which it is Built", note Key details you learn about each of the following characters that help us understand their motives and actions.

	SIMON)OHN THE BAPTIST	MATTHEW
WHAT MOTIVATES HIS ACTIONS?			
DESCRIBE HIS ACTIONS			
DESCRIBE HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD GOD			
DESCRIBE HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD RELIGIOUS LEADERS / CUSTOMS			
HOW OTHERS SEE HIM			
OVERALL IMPRESSION			

"For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy." St Therese of Lisieux

Reflect

Rewatch Simon's monologue while out fishing on the boat at night. [27:49 - 29:10]
Reflect on the following: what is he expressing about his faith at this moment? How honest is he with God? How is this a desperate plea for help? How that prayer was answered?

Tournal

Think about Eden, Simon's wife, a woman of faith, sitting at home, worried sick about Simon and his failing faith, and caring for her ill mother.

- What would her prayers / thoughts be this night?
- What promises of God to her people would she draw strength from?
- What would she ask for?

Write a prayer of trustfulness, as if you are Eden speaking directly to God (Adonai).

Adonai...





Let go and let God

As children bring their broken toys
with tears for us to mend,

I brought my broken dreams to God,
because He was my friend.

But then, instead of leaving Him,
in peace, to work alone;
I hung around and tried to help,
with ways that were my own.

At last, I snatched them back and cried,

"How can you be so slow?"

"My child," He said,

"What could I do?

You never did let go."

- Author: Lauretta P. Burns -

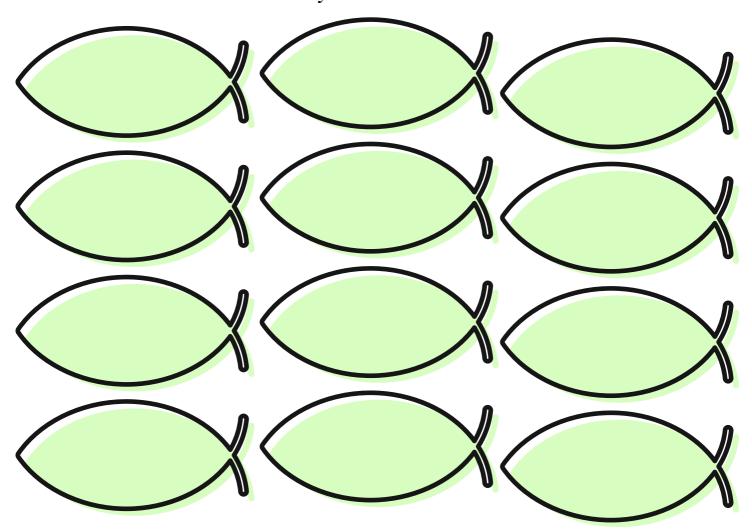


In the opening credits we see thirteen aqua-coloured fish among all the grey fish, symbolising Jesus calling the Apostles to follow Him.

What do you notice about the direction these aqua fish are swimming in? What relevance could that have for the practice of faith today?

- Christians are called by Jesus to be in the world but not of it. If someone claims to be a Christian, it should be evident by the way they live their lives.
- Can you think of *twelve examples* of how Christians are called to live in today's world e.g. twelve ways they can show that they follow the message and teachings of Jesus and have a personal relationship with Him?

Write one way in each of the fish below!



Did you know that the FISH was an early symbol of Christianity? The Greek word for fish is "ICHTHYS." As early as the first century, Christians made an acrostic from this word: Iesous Christos Theou Yios Soter, i.e. Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour. During times of persecution by the Romans in the first centuries after the death and resurrection of Jesus, Christians used the fish mark meeting places and tombs.

Christians believe that God has a unique plan for each person, a calling, specifically for each one of us. Another word for a calling is vocation. In the past, people only spoke about vocations when referring to priests or religious, like brothers or nuns. Now we understand that vocation is broader than that. You may have a calling to priesthood or religious life. Or you may be called to married life. You may be called to single life. Maybe you're called to be a doctor, or a teacher, or an engineer, or a salesperson, or an office worker.



God's ultimate plan for each one of us is that we become saints, that we are holy and fulfil His plan for us here on earth so we can enjoy eternal happiness with Him in Heaven. We achieve this by living out whatever calling God has for each of us, by offering up our lives for His greater glory. If you're called to be a teacher, be the best teacher you can be. If your vocation is to be a mom or dad, be the absolute best parent you can be! If your vocation right now is to be a student, be the best student you can be.



God calls some people to priesthood or religious life. This is an amazing life of service to others! The idea can be daunting at first, but remember, whatever God is calling us to, that is His plan for the **absolute maximum of our happiness**!

DO YOU THINK OF YOUR LIFE THIS WAY?
WHAT DIFFERENCE WOULD IT MAKE IF YOU DID?



In *Luke 5:1-11*, Jesus calls Peter and the other apostles to follow Him, to become 'fishers of men' instead of fishermen. There's no way they could have understood what that actually meant at the time or how it would really change their whole lives, but they trusted in Him.

Do you ever wonder what your personal mission is? You definitely have one! You don't need to figure it out all at once. But it's a good idea to keep it in mind. Here are some tips to figuring it out:

- 1. With every decision, just do the next good thing i.e. make good daily decisions.
- 2. Be open and honest about who you are (and ask God who He created you to be).
- 3. Discern your gifts and talents. For more ideas, read this blog from LifeTeen!

THOMAS MERTON VOCATION PRAYER



MY LORD GOD, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following Your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please You does in fact please You. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this You will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust You always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for You are ever with me, and You will never leave me to face my perils alone.





The CHOSEN
Season 1, Episode 4



BEFORE WATCHING THE VIDEO: WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF A PRIEST'S VOCATION / ROLE?

WATCH THE DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE VOCATIONS VIDEO AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW	
How does Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan define a vocation? A vocation is a from God to live a particular	"THE PRIESTHOOD IS THE LOVE OF THE
Fr Shane O'Neill comments that as well as God giving us the vocat the by which we discern what that is it.	AT 1011111111111111111111111111111111111
All Christians by virtue of baptism are called to the "cor priest, prophet and king. Ordained priests who can admin "ministerial priesthood". How does Bishop Cullinan ministerial priesthood?	ister the sacraments are known as the
What initially discouraged Fr Billy Meehan from considering	ng priesthood?
What did he decide he wanted to be after his Leaving Cer	t?
"YOU WERE NOT MADE FOR COMFORT; YOU WERE MADE Fr Shane describes the essence of the vocation man laying down his life for Jesus Christ." He	explains that a man who serves Jesus
FOR GREATNESS!" as a priest lays down all of his faculties, g his entire in service of Je:	, a and sus and others. PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS IN THE
BENEDICT XVI What kind of gifts / talents / personality tr could a priest really use in the service of God others today do you think? "YOU SHALL BE	DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE Taits Lord Jesus, you have told us that
According to Fr Shane, where does a priest's power come fr	heroic missionaries, dedicated brothers and sisters. We pray in particular for vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life in our Diocese of Waterford & Lismore. Enkindle
Although taking the first step to answering God's ca priesthood might be daunting, what encouragement do (seminarian) and Fr Shane offer at the end?	
After watching the video, what do you think is most challenging part of being a priest today?	

"DO NOT BE AFRAID.

OPEN WIDE THE DOORS

TO CHRIST!"

- ST JOHN PAUL II

After watching the video, what do you think is the most fulfilling part of being a priest today?

Fr John McEneaney was ordained for the Diocese of Waterford & Lismore on 24th October 2021. Watch him speak about his experience of being a new priest here.

Church helpers in proclaiming the Good News to the world of tomorrow.

For more on vocations check https://vocationsireland.com/



Try replacing "I have to" with "I get to" e.g. "I get to go to school "I get to help my parent I get to go to Mass

Prayer doesn't help your relationship with God. Prayer is your relationship with God. - Mark Hart -

LIST THE TOP THREE THINGS YOU STRUGGLE TO MOTIVATE YOURSELF TO DO!





THINK OF ONE SITUATION WHERE IT'S BETTER NOT TO BE GUIDED BY YOUR EMOTIONS

WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ "WHEN YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE IT AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW





What temptation do we all often face, according to Fr Mike?

When we don't feel like doing something, or struggle to find the motivation or be enthusiastic, what should we do?

W	7

Our reason / why should havitle	to do the right thing
Our reason / why should be: it's <code>.</code>	to do the right thing

Mark Hart says:	"Praye	r doesn't	our relationship with God. Prayer	our
relationship with	God."	That means if we	don't have a daily prayer life, then we d	on't
have a	_ relat	tionship with God		



Our motive to pray should be: "I want	"

What did Jesus make possible for us to have?

What can the Holy Spirit do for us?



SO. SHOULD WE JUST IGNORE OUR EMOTIONS?

Fr Mike's friend Dean says,

"Emotions do not reveal the truth about reality, but they do reveal the condition of your heart." How would you explain this in your own words?



Think of a situation that could explain this idea: where your feelings could show where your heart is at, but it would be wiser not to follow your heart in that situation!



REMEMBER: YOU HAVE A REASON, A WHY, A MOTIVE: THE LORD WANTS A RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU, HE WANTS TO BE PART OF YOUR

KNOW YOUR HEART

LUKE 5:1-11

Are there areas in your life where you find yourself saying, "My heart's not in it, I can't do it, I don't feel like it."? Reflect on one of those areas, and what the conditio of your heart might really be saying. Then find your motive, your why and name in

n t!		

WHAT MY HEART MIGHT BE SAYING:

REGARDLESS OF WHAT YOU'RE FEELING, DO THE RIGHT THING!

Now Read Juke 5:1-11

This Gospel passage tells the familiar story of the miraculous catch of fish. Simon (Peter) has been fishing all night, and is no doubt exhausted. He's skilled at his trade, but for whatever reason, the night has not gone his way, and he has nothing to show for his efforts. He's weary, disappointed, possibly cranky at the loss of earnings, the weather, his

own inability, maybe the faults of others. He has plenty of excuses to just pack up and go home. Then Jesus of Nazareth, a carpenter, not a fisherman, tells him to cast his nets again. Simon has listened to Jesus preaching and although every emotion in him was already strained and telling him to give up, he chose to obey (although not without a little grumbling!) We know what happens next: his nets filled to breaking point, his boats almost sank! Simon dropped to his knees, overcome, significantly very aware of the condition of his own heart. We don't know a lot about Simon before this point, but the heart of Jesus spoke directly to his heart that day, and caused him to leave his comfort zone and follow Jesus. Did he know what Jesus meant by a becoming a "fisher of men"? Highly unlikely! But Simon had a motive, to stay close to Jesus, and that was enough.



SITUATION:

MY MOTIVATION TO ACTUALLY ACT:

BE VERY CONSCIOUS THIS WEEK OF AREAS YOU STRUGGLE TO MOTIVATE YOURSELF IN. MAYBE IT'S HOUSEHOLD CHORES, ASSIGNMENTS, SPENDING TIME WITH PARTICULAR PEOPLE, CUTTING DOWN ON SCREEN TIME, SERVING OTHERS: WHATEVER IT IS, STOP AND ASK YOURSELF WHERE YOUR HEART IS AT, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT IS YOUR MOTIVE FOR DOING THE RIGHT THING IN EACH SITUATION. LET THAT DRIVE YOU FORWARDS.

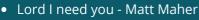


Dear Jesus, you know I struggle a lot sometimes to do the right thing. Getting out of bed on time, pulling my weight around the house, completing assignments to the best of my ability and on time, not making excuses for myself... the list goes on.

Help me to see my heart as you see it, to acknowledge what's truly going on in there. Give me the strength to rise above myself and my emotions, to find the why and the motive, daily, because the battle is daily. Amen



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON THE CONDITION OF YOUR HEART



- Today I Choose Brian Doerksen Ten Thousand Reasons - Matt Redman
- Nothing I hold onto W Reagan & Utd Pursuit I will follow you Kristene di Marco
- Here's my heart David Crowder Band
- Blessed be your name Matt Redman
- I raise a Hallelujah Bethel
- I shall not want Audrey Assad
- Build my Life Pat Barrett

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!



HFM Testimony: Watch Áine's story of how she knew she had a choice to make in her faith



Fr Patrick Cahill: The Spirit of God





Jesus performs his first public miracle during a wedding in the village of Cana where he turns water into wine. We meet more apostles and future apostles.

Episode Resources:

page 38 •	Summary Reflection Playlist
page 39 •	Episode 5 Comprehension Questions
page 41 •	Water to Wine
page 43 •	Do whatever He tells you (reflection)
page 44 •	In His Shoes (Thomas)
page 45 •	Crossword
page 46	Praying the Rosary

CHOSEN Episode 5: The Wedding Gift



Summary:

Jesus performs his first public miracle during a wedding in the village of Cana where he turns water into wine. We meet more apostles and future apostles.



Reflect on any of the following questions:

- What struck you the most from this week's episode? Any surprises? Challenges?
- What aspect of this Gospel story took on a new meaning for you?
- How would you have reacted to these events if you were a guest at this wedding?
- We're past the half-way point in Season 1. What has this journey meant to you? Meditate: Scripture Passage(s) for this week: John 2: 1-11 Note any words or phrases that stand out to you. Act: What is it you think the Lord is calling you to do this week?

Suggested Playlist for the Week:

- Empty my Hands Holy Family Mission
- Our God Chris Tomlin
- Miracles Jesus Culture
- Waymaker Leeland

Click title to watch on You Tube

- Miracle Sara Groves
- What Faith Can Do Kutless
- God of Miracles Chris McClarney
- The Second Luminous Mystery: The Wedding Feast at Cana (Fr Daniel O'Reilly)













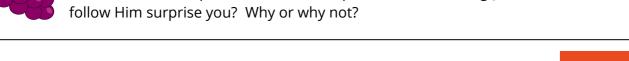
The CHOSEN Season 1, Episode 5



"Do whatever He tells you." John 2:5

Section A: Before watching the episode, reflect on the following:

	er been to a wedding? What are your stand-out memories from it:
If you we	re planning your wedding, what details would matter most to you
Section B: Watch the	episode and answer the questions that follow:
1. Where and when do the op	pening events of this episode take place?, B
2. What Biblical event is being	g presented in the opening scene?
3. What was Jesus' response a	as to why He was not with the caravan?
4. Who was the Child Jesus re	ferring to when He spoke about being with His Father?
5. Mary claims it is too early fo	or Jesus' public ministry/mission? What does Jesus ask her?
about the kind of person Ma	edding to help her friend Dinah prepare. What does this suggest ary is? Can you think of another story from the Gospels where meone else in need, despite the difficult journey she faced to do
7. How does John the Baptist	describe the <i>purpose</i> of his ministry?
8. How does Sim	non convey to Eden his experience of meeting Jesus?
9. Does Eden's re	esponse to Simon's explanation of meeting Jesus and his call to



10. Eden comments that easy "is not our people's way". Given what you know of Jewish history, would you say this is a fair assessment? Explain your answer.



The CHOSEN

The Wedding Gift

Season 1, Episode 5

CHOSEN	the reality dal	Season 1, Episode)
11. How	does "The Chosen" suggest the doubting nature of Thomas	from his introduction?
12	2. Along with Mary (Magdalene), who are the followers of Jesu	
13. Who does	Jesus describe as the most important and powerful person h	
	n does John the Baptist make about the miracle-worker that I outright as blasphemy?	Nicodemus
15. What two t	things are unusual about how Jesus has been picking his studes?	dents, according to
16. W	What do you think Jesus means by " <i>My time has not yet come."</i> ?	?
	17. Why do you think Jesus decided to work a miracle at the	he wedding?
18. (a) W	hat was Mary's instruction to the servants?	
(b) W	/hy do you think she had so much faith in Jesus' ability to find	l a solution?
<u> </u>	en Jesus called Simon, He told him he would be a fisher of me	

20. Why do you think the analogy of the work of the stone-cutter is used to



20. Why do you think the analogy of the work of the stone-cutter is used to provide a backdrop for the first public miracle of Jesus?

Section C: Personal reflection

1. What is your impression of Jesus in this episode? Does anything surprise you?



- 2. Which character do you most identify with in this episode? Explain your answer. Choose from *Simon, Thomas, Ramah, or Thaddeus.*
- 3. Ramah states that Jesus gave them even more wine than they needed, and the Master of the Banquet praised the quality of the wine. What might this teach us about the heart of God?





"Mary notes our needs before we ourselves feel them." Archbishop Fulton Sheen

CAN YOU NAME ANY MIRACLES JESUS WORKED IN THE GOSPELS? BREAK THEM INTO CATEGORIES: HEALING, FOOD MIRACLES, NATURE (OR WEATHER) MIRACLES





FOOD HEALING

NATURE

WHY DO YOU THINK JESUS WORKED MIRACLES? WHAT DID HE WANT TO SHOW?



WATCH THIS EXTRACT FROM <u>"THE CHOSEN" SEASON 1, EPISODE 5, FROM 39:30 to 54:20</u> and reflect on the Questions that follow



(if you have time watch the whole episode from 20:37)

Context: Jewish Wedding feasts at the time of Jesus lasted several days, and if extra guests decided to show up, it is not surprising that the wine ran out quickly at this wedding. To run out of wine would cause huge embarrassment for the wedding couple and also their family, and likely haunt them for the rest of their lives.

Remember also, Jesus has not revealed his mission as the Messiah yet. Cana was His first public miracle

Why do you think Mary went to Jesus with the problem of the wine?

Why do you think Jesus was hesitant to work a miracle there and then? What would that mean in the bigger picture for Him? What would it mean in the bigger picture for Mary, too?



What did Mary say to the servants to show she knew Jesus would rescue the situation?



What instruction did Jesus give to the servants about the jars?

Jesus' action was similar to a stone mason cutting a limestone block that day, symbolically: how so?



Why was the Steward (Master of the Banquet) so astonished by the wine he tasted at the end?

How is the character of "Doubting Thomas" portrayed in this event? What does Jesus challenge Him to do, to expand his view of?

WATER TO WINE

JOHN 2:1-11

The scene where Jesus dips His hand into the jar and lets the wine flow from His hand - what later scene in Jesus' life could this symbolise? (*Think about Good Friday*)

What can we learn from the quality and the abundance of the wine that Jesus gave? What is He willing to do for us in our lives and our needs?

Now Read John 2:1-11

The story of the Wedding Feast at Cana might seem like a simple miracle at first, but digging through the details teaches us a lot. Jesus worked His first miracle at a wedding, in the heart of a family. That's significant, as families have a special place in the heart of God. Jesus was asked to work this miracle by His Mother Mary. It was her intercession

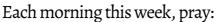
that highlighted the couple's need. We can always go to Mary with our prayers and ask for her intercession too! She asked the servants to do whatever Jesus told them, because she had full faith in His power (just as she herself said yes to being the Mother of God at the Annunciation, and was always obedient to God's will). Jesus' apparent hesitation was not because He didn't want to help the couple out of an embarrassing situation. Rather, this would be His first public miracle and would in effect be officially announcing His mission as Messiah. His "Hour" refers to His passion, death and resurrection. Once His mission was announced, His journey towards Jerusalem and His passion would begin, both for Jesus and also for His Mother, so this decision at Cana was a significant one.



Imagine yourself as one of the characters in this Gospel scene. Who would you be? What would you notice? How would you react? Spend time reflecting on the fact Jesus gave the couple not just any wine, but incredible wine, and He gave them an abundance, even more than was needed. What do you need Jesus to do for you?



THIS WEEK, TRY TO BE LIKE MARY, ATTENTIVE TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS AROUND YOU.
If there are areas where you can help, do so, quietly and humbly. Pray for the
PEOPLE YOU ENCOUNTER WHO NEED HELP, ASKING OUR LADY TO INTERCEDE FOR THEM
WITH HER SON. WATCH - PRAY - ACT. IN THAT WAY YOU CAN BE A WITNESS TO CHRIST
IN THEIR LIVES. MAYBE IN AN UNSEEN WAY. ASK OUR LADY TO GUIDE YOU!



Holy Spirit, lead me to those I can help, inspire me who to pray for and give me courage to act and speak in the way I should. Mother Mary, be a mother to me today and always. Show me what it is I need to do today to draw closer to Jesus and to let Him be glorified in my life. Amen



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON JESUS' MIRACLES



Our God - Chris Tomlin

Empty my Hands - Holy Family Mission

- Miracles Jesus Culture
- He turned the water into wine Johnny Cash
- Miracle Sara Groves
- What Faith Can Do Kutless
- God of Miracles Chris McClarney
- Waymaker Leeland

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!



HFM Testimony: Watch Róisín's story of how letting Jesus into her life transformed her



The Second Luminous Mystery: The Wedding Feast at Cana (Fr Daniel O'Reilly)



Powhatever He tello your John 2:1-17

Things don't always go according to plan, even if we think we've planned well. We can find ourselves facing problems we can't see any immediate solution to. We can find ourselves suddenly overwhelmed, with an empty tank, hoping for a solution we can't find.

Mary knows. Mary sees all of this. And she sees it with a loving Mother's heart, a Mother who wants the best for us. What better intercessor could we ask for than Mary, so close to the heart of Jesus? How could He refuse her anything?

At Cana, Mary simply states the problem for Jesus, she doesn't waste time coming up with her own possible solutions. She presents the problem and trusts that He will work in the best way possible, and then steps back.

Her advice to us is as simple as her advice to the servants: "Do whatever He tells you."

What Jesus asks of the servants is a basic task – fill the water jars. A simple task, yet because the six jars held up to thirty gallons each, it was a task that took time and repetitive actions and efforts. They must surely have wondered what on earth they were doing this for: did this Jesus not know it was wine, not water, that was wanted? Yet they obeyed, and their simple obedience laid the foundation for a great miracle.

Sometimes our jars might feel empty. Sometimes we might feel overwhelmed by what we're faced with. Mary teaches us to turn to Jesus, immediately, rather than getting bogged down with worry or insecurities. We need to bring our problems to Him, and then we need to act decisively in whatever way He leads us, even if we can't understand His plan, even if His ways don't make sense to us, even if we feel like we're doing the same, repetitive tasks without much fruit being visible.

The details matter to Jesus. The intentions of our hearts matter to Him.

The servants did not work the miracle at Cana, that wasn't their job. But they provided the materials the Lord wanted to work with. Like the little boy who gave his five loaves and two fish.

What was the end result? Jesus didn't just provide enough average wine to get through the rest of the celebration. He provided the best wine, and in abundance. Imagine what He can do with our lives if we just do whatever He tells us, no more and no less.

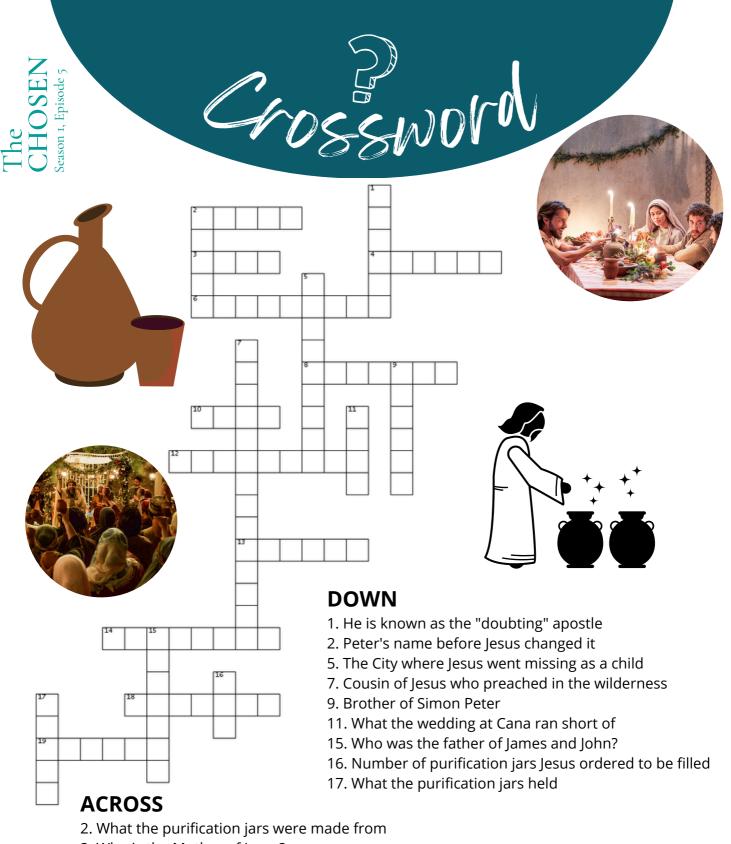


• In The Chosen Season 1 Episode 5, Thomas is shown to have witnessed the miracle at Cana. Thomas' whole life was turned upside down when Jesus called him to join Him.



- Rewatch <u>51:00 53:12</u> (when Ramah comes to speak to Thomas).
- Pretend that you are Thomas and write an interior monologue expressing the whirlwind of emotions and thoughts in your head at this precise moment. Use the following to guide you:
- What questions / feelings / doubts / fears / hopes / excitement would you (Thomas) feel at this moment, trying to make sense of it all when everyone around you is celebrating and rejoicing?

-		
_		



- 3. Who is the Mother of Jesus?
- 4. Sister of Moses after whom a Wedding Dance was named
- 6. Pharisee who genuinely wanted to know the truth about Jesus
- 8. Another name for the Master of the Wedding Banquet (S_____)
- 10. Where Jesus worked His first public miracle
- 12. Simon Peter's job before called by Jesus
- 13. Changing water to wine at Cana was Jesus' first _____ miracle
- 14. Town where Jesus grew up
- 18. The type of party Mary and Jesus were invited to
- 19. Building where Jesus was found when he was missing for 3 days at age twelve

Make the Sign of the Cross

The Apostle's Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Pray for the Pope's Intentions

Recite one Our Father, three Hail Mary's and a Glory Be.

For each decade:

Pray one Our Father, ten Hail Mary's and one Glory Be.

After each decade: Pray the Fatima Prayer.

Our Father,

Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

Hail Mary,

full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

Glory be

to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without

[Fatima Prayer]

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell; lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of your mercy

end, Amen.

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

- 1. The Annunciation
- 2 The Visitation
- 3 The Birth of Jesus
- 4. The Presentation of Jesus in the temple
- 5. The Finding of the Child Jesus in the temple

THE MYSTERIES OF LIGHT

- 1. The Baptism in the River Jordan
- 2. The Wedding Feast at Cana
- 3. The Proclamation of the kingdom of God and the call to conversion
- 4. The Transfiguration
- 5. The Institution of the Holy Eucharist

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

- 1. The Agony in the Garden
- 2. The Scourging at the Pillar
- 3. The Crowning with Thorns
- 4. The Carrying of the Cross
- 5. The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

- 1. The Resurrection
- 2. The Ascension
- 3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
- 4. The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven
- 5. The Coronation of Our Lady

Decide which mysteries you will be meditating on.

Announce the mystery before each decade e.g. "The first Joyful Mystery, The Annunciation"

The Rosary Prayers

After five decades:

Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, hail our life, our sweetness and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To you do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, your eyes of mercy towards us, and after this our exile, show unto us the Blessed Fruit of your womb Jesus. O, clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Pray for us Oh Most Holy Mother of God - that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray, O God whose only begotten Son, by His life, death and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant we beseech You, that meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise through the same Christ our Lord.

May the Divine Assistance remain always with us - and may the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Meditating on the Mysteries of the Rosary has been described as flicking back through a photo album of Jesus and Mary's life with Our Lady, and being able to put yourself into those scenes too! watch Fr Patrick Cahill explain this analogy in this Ascend YM Clip on Youtube









After the wedding in Cana, Jesus' ministry takes a public turn. We see reactions from his followers and from those He heals. The Pharisees and Romans take note of these new activities as well.

Episode Resources:

page 48	• Summary Reflection Playlist
page 49	• Episode 6 Comprehension Questions
page 51	• In His Shoes (man who was healed)
page 52	• Our Wounded Hearts
page 53	• Reporting Live from Capernaum!
page 54	• Wordsearch
page 55	• Snapshot!
page 56	• Damien of Molokai
page 57	• Why did God become man?
page 59	• Prepare the Way for the Lord!
page 61	• What do we mean by faith?

CHOSEN



Episode 6: Indescribable Compassion

Summary:

After the wedding in Cana, Jesus' ministry takes a public turn. We see reactions from his followers and from those He heals. The Pharisees and Romans take note of these new activities as well.

hage: www.press.thechos

Reflect on any of the following questions:

- What struck you the most from this week's episode?
- Were you surprised or challenged by anything?
- Where did you find yourself in this episode? In the crowd? On the roof? Elsewhere in the city? How do you imagine yourself reacting to Jesus' miracles?

litate:
ture Passage(s) for this week: Matthew 8:1–4 Mark 2:1-12
any words or phrases that stand out to you.
is it you think the Lord is calling you to do this week?

Suggested Playlist for the Week:

Click title to watch on You Tube

- Just One Touch (Kim Walker Smith)
- Name of Jesus (Chris Tomlin)
- Heal our Land (Kari Jobe)
- Heal me O Lord (Don Moen)
- Healer of my soul (John Michael Talbot) A Prayer to Jesus for Healing















"Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean" Luke 5:12

Section A: Before watching the episode, reflect on the following

Can you remember a time you were sick, and had to miss school, or a match, or had to isolate from family and friends? How did it feel?

Can you remember a time when friends made a special effort to help you, or when you made a real effort to help a friend?



Section B: Watch the episode and answer the questions that follow:

- 1. How does the opening scene convey the desperation / fear associated with leprosy? 2. What view of John the Baptist does Nicodemus share with the other Pharisees? 3. Name three day-to-day problems do the apostles face (as mentioned by James and Peter)? 4. Why does Jesus insist Simon goes ahead of the others to Capernaum? Why Simon, and not any of the others? 5. How does Quintus explain the miraculous catch of fish on Simon's boat? 6. Why did Jesus have to spend His childhood in Egypt? 7. Describe the reactions of the apostles and Mary Magdalene when the man with leprosy appears. 8. How would you describe the reaction of Jesus to the man with leprosy? 9. What instructions did Jesus give to the man he healed from leprosy (to fulfil the

Law of Moses in such a case)?

The CHOSEN

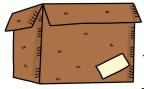
Indescribable Compassion

Season 1, Episode 6

- 10. What advice did Salome give her sons, James and John, regarding Jesus?
- 11. How does Simon treat Matthew when he meets him in this episode?
- 12. What Gospel stories / parables / teachings can you identify in the teaching and sharing of Jesus in Zebedee's house?



13. Nicodemus states that he does not want to live in some "bleak past where God cannot do anything new". What danger does he recognise in Schmuel's confined understanding of the law?



- 14. How is Matthew treated by his fellow Jews as he approaches Zebedee's house?
- 15. Who are the only ones to treat Matthew with any kindness or concern?
- 17. Schmuel's reaction to Jesus is sharply contrasted with that of Tamar: explain.
- 18. How does Jesus show he can read what's on Schmuel's heart?
- 19. How does Jesus show that the Son of Man has the authority to forgive sins (something only God can do)?



Section C: Personal reflection

1. What is your impression of Jesus in this episode? Does anything surprise you?



- 2. Which character do you most identify with in this episode? Explain your answer. Choose from *Matthew, Tamar, the paralysed man, or the man with leprosy.*
- 3. Nicodemus tells Schmuel that our understanding of God will never be complete. Do you agree or disagree? How could this understanding impact a believer's faith?



The CHOSEN Season I, Episode 6

His Sholl



- In The Chosen Season 1 Episode 6, Jesus works two dramatic healing miracles.
- Imagine you are either the man who was cleansed from leprosy (see <u>Matthew 8:1-4</u>), or the paralysed man who was forgiven and healed (see <u>Mark 2:1-12</u>).
- Write a diary entry of the day you encountered Jesus and were miraculously healed.

• Describe:

- your emotions / experiences prior to the healing, including how others treated you;
- what it was like when you first glimpsed Jesus;
- · what you hoped for by meeting Him;
- how the miracle actually took place (and what was said);
- the instructions you received from Jesus;
- how you felt afterwards and what you did.



Em Nounded Henris Miels Larsen Stevns, Public domain

Our wounded world...

Leprosy, especially in the time of Jesus, was a terrible disease. Not only did the physical body decay and waste away, but lepers suffered terribly emotionally, as they were cast out from society, never again to have contact with their families or loved ones, enduring a permanent isolation unless they could be cured.





None of us suffer from leprosy, but we definitely all can suffer from wounds in our hearts: words that have cut us deeply; friends or family letting us down; our own failures and weaknesses; troubles we carry that no-one else could even guess. Jesus doesn't turn away from our wounds: He wants us to know that He loves us, and wants to heal any hurts. He's not afraid of the messiness of our lives. He's the One who can bring real peace, forgiveness and comfort. We just need to ask Him.

"Your Father in heaven is not afraid of your mess. We do not have a God who loves us "in spite" of our messes, we have a God Who loves us in the midst of them." Mark Hart

What about my heart?



Listen to the song, "Just One Touch" by Kim Walker Smith.

Pick a line or a phrase that stands out to you and write it here:



What is it about this phrase that makes you stop and think? How can you apply it to your life? Could it become a prayer for you this week?



Take some time in silent prayer. Open your heart as much as you can to God, asking for His healing in any areas of your life where you really need Him.

What about others?



Who can you reach out to this week? Who needs compassion and love? How can you help those in need? Think of one concrete action.

Dear Jesus, When you met the man with leprosy You acted with such compassion and love. Teach me to be that compassionate and loving to everyone I meet. Help me also to have the courage of that man, to ask for healing in my life, and to let You into the messiness of my life. Amen



IMAGINE YOU ARE CREATING A NEWS REPORT TO DESCRIBE THE HEALING OF THE MAN WHO WAS PARALYSED.

Answer the following questions, staying as true to the character and historical details as possible.

who will take the following roles:

Newsroom anchor / reporter in the field / eve-witness(es) / Pharisee / healed man / friend(s) of healed man / apostle(s).

My role is:	
Character's Name? <i>(Create one if you don't know!)</i>	
What do I know about this event? <i>for for the reporter- what questions do I need to ask</i> :	9 1

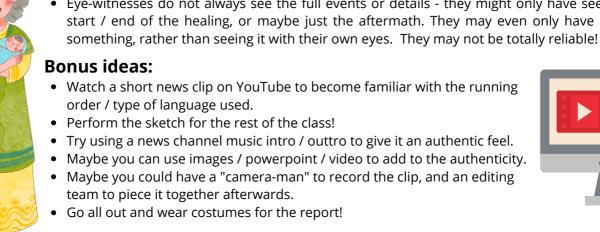
What is my perspective on this event?

How do I feel about the events of the day?

What do I know / think about Jesus?



- When you have completed your own brainstorm, work together with your group to create a short newscast with each student responsible for his or her own role / report.
- Remember, if you are the Anchor, you must do just that! Anchor the report from the studio, give an introduction, link each segment e.g. "And now over to in"
- Eye-witnesses do not always see the full events or details they might only have seen the start / end of the healing, or maybe just the aftermath. They may even only have heard



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authority / belief / Boaz / cleansed / conquest / Deuteronomy / Esther explanation / faith / friends / forgiveness / Herod / James / John / leper healing / massacre / Mordecai / parable / paralytic / Pharisee / psalms / Roman roof / Ruth / Salome / Simon / sins / stretcher / Sadducees / Siloam Tower / tax collector / Torah / traitor / Zebedee

QUICK FIRE QUIZ!

Choose at least ten of the words / phrases in the list above and work as a team to explain how they relate to Season 1, Episode 6 of "The Chosen" as quickly as you can. Who can explain the most words?





Imagine you are an onlooker at one of these healing events and manage to take a photo to capture one specific moment. Draw the image below. Compose the message you would send with this image to a friend to explain what happened in that precise moment. You can include relevant hashtags and emoji.

Who was St Damien of Molokai?

- Watch this short video clip here on the Blessed Among Us YouTube Channel.
- Read the short account of his life here on www.teachingcatholickids.com ("A saint for the Forgotten and Abandoned")



What is your initial response to the decision of Fr Damien to go on mission to the island of Molokai? If you had been his friend or family member, what would you have advised him?

Why do you think it would have been difficult for Fr Damien to stay there and minister to those who were dying from leprosy?



If you could have asked Fr Damien any questions about his mission in Molokai, what would you most like to know?

In John 15:13 Jesus says: "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." How well do you think this statement applies to the life of St Damien of Molokai?



Can people still contract leprosy today?

Leprosy (Hansen's Disease) is an infection caused by a slow-growing bacteria (Mycobaterium Leprae) which can affect the nerves, skin, eyes and lining of the nose. In the past leprosy was incurable and so was terribly feared, as the only prospect facing someone diagnosed with leprosy was a slow and painful death, cut off from loved ones and society at large. Nowadays, with early diagnosis and treatment, leprosy can actually be cured. However, if left untreated, the nerve damage can result in crippling of hands and feet, paralysis, and blindness. (source: https://www.cdc.gov/leprosy/index.html)

Leprosy still exists in some parts of Asia, Africa and South America, due to extreme poverty, poor sanitation, malnourishment and stigmatisation which can lead to those suffering from leprosy being afraid to come forward for diagnosis and treatment.



My did God become man?

"For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man." Nicene Creed

CHOOSE A FAVOURITE TOPIC (SPORT / TEAM / BAND / GAME ETC) AND TALK FOR A MINUTE EXPLAINING THE BASIC INFO EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW.

IF SOMEONE ASKED YOU, WHAT POINTS WOULD YO		CS OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF?	", HOW WOULD YOU AN	ISWER?	
Have you seen <u>John</u>	<u>3:16</u> on posters (at matches? What	does the quote s	say?	
HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN	WHY GOD BECAME MA	AN, WHY JESUS CAME TO U	S IN HUMAN FORM?		

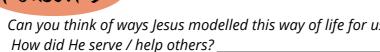
WATCH THIS EXTRACT FROM THE ALTARATION SERIES: "MARK HART ON THE 4 REASONS GOD BECAME MAN." AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW





Mark Hart lists 4 reasons God became man. We find these in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

	•		
Reason 1:	To save us from our		
Reason 2:	To show us whatsong lyric. It requires s		•
	[Jesus showed the depth of His l	ove for us by dying on the C	!
	Reason 3: To model_	for us.	
	Can you think of ways lesus mod	lelled this way of life for us?	





So that we can partake in the D____ N____.

God became man so man could become like _____. God gives us His Divine life which we call g____

WHY DID GOD BECOME MAN?

LUKE 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Rewatch Mark Hart's short video. Now test yourself - can you explain briefly the four reasons God became man? Maybe you can come up with some memory / mnemonic devices to help you?



Now Read Juke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

This Gospel passage is just rife with bubbling anticipation and excitement. Jesus' reputation as a revolutionary preacher has been growing, His teaching has been stirring up hearts, both for and against him. Then he returns to Galilee, and reads from Isaiah 61, a well-known passage. You can imagine Him pausing dramatically as

the crowds' eyes are fixed on Him, and then He announces, "This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen." Mic drop (if He had a mic!) Jesus was effectively telling His listeners that He was the Chosen One, the Messiah, the One whom the Prophet Isaiah foretold. The most important news the world ever heard if true, absolute blasphemy if He was lying. We know, however, that He was speaking the truth, because Jesus IS the Way, the Truth and the Life. He proved His Words by His actions. He was fulfilling the Old Testament prophecies. God became man, to show us how to live, how to love, how to die, and how to live forever in heaven, with Him. He modelled a way of life we are still called to practice today. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we can do this. Let's decide to follow His lead!



LOOK AGAIN AT WHAT JESUS HAS BEEN ANOINTED TO DO, ACCORDING TO THE PROPHET ISAIAH. BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN ANOINTED BY THE SPIRIT AT OUR BAPTISM, WE HAVE THE SAME CALL. HOW CAN YOU PUT EVEN ONE ASPECT OF THIS CALL INTO PRACTICE IN YOUR LIFE THIS WEEK? ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO OPEN YOUR EYES TO WHAT HE WANTS YOU TO DO, AND THEN ACT WHEN YOU FEEL HIS PROMPTING!

THE ANGELUS: (See Bonus Content at the back of the Resource Pack or click here)

Read about the origins of the Angelus Prayer, which celebrates the mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus, God becoming man. Decide this week to try to pray the Angelus at 6pm each day, and set an alarm if you need to! You can use our attached resource, or screen-shot our Angelus Prayer in our Insta Stories (Prayer)! Make 2 minutes for God each day a priority for you this week!



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON GOD BECOMING MAN



- In Christ Alone Keith & Kristyn Getty, Alison Krauss
 - Here I am to Worship Hillsong
- Lord I Lift Your Name on High: Shane & Shane
- Son of Man, Son of God Travis Ryan
- Emmanuel Hillsong
- What a Beautiful Name Hillsong
- You gave your life away Paul Baloche
- Human for me Kathy Kinard

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!



HFM Testimony: Watch Ezekiel's story of how His relationship with God has grown



Why did God take on our humanity? (Fr Mike Schmitz)





WHAT COULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE TO GO TO CONFESSION?

WHAT DO YOU IMAGINE CONFESSION IS LIKE FROM A PRIEST'S PERSPECTIVE?

WATCH THIS VIDEO FROM FR MIKE SCHMITZ, "CONFESSION IS A PLACE OF VICTORY" (ASCENSION PRESENTS) AND REFLECT ON THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW



Fr Mike describes confession as "one of the most joyful, humble and inspiring places in the world". Does this surprise you? Why (or why not)?

THREE THINGS THE PRIEST SEES IN CONFESSION:

SHARE WITH ANOTHER PERSON IF YOU ARE HAPPY TO.

1.THE COSTLY MERCY OF GOD IN ACTION.



People who are *discouraged* being

People who are **wounded** being

People who are *lost* being

People who are t

People saying: "I'm not going to give up on the God who won't _____

2. THE HUMAN PERSON, PART OF GOD'S MASTERPIECE.

Fr Mike says sins are like _____.

That means that priests are like God's _____ collectors!

"Sins are boring". What is fascinating / memorable is the

3. THE PRIEST'S OWN SOUL AND HIS OWN HEART.

Sometimes a priest will recognise something in their own life when they hear another confess it. It can act as an examination of ______ for the priest himself.



PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD



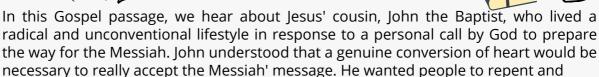
Fr Mike's father was a surgeon who saved lives and healed bodies. What did he say his son (Fr Mike) would do with his priest's hands?

KEY POINT: CONFESSION IS A PLACE OF VICTORY. THE PRIEST HEARING CONFESSIONS GETS TO SEE GOD WINNING HIS CHILDREN BACK, EVERY SINGLE DAY!



Has this video changed / added to your understanding of confession in any way? What struck you the most from Fr Mike's explanation?

Now Read Juke 3:1-6



believe, to prepare a way for the Messiah. In the Catholic tradition, one of the most beautiful and healing sacraments is the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession. It is a chance to take stock of our lives, see what is going well and not so well, see what is hindering us from drawing close to God and what we need forgiveness for. God's mercy is freely available to us. He doesn't just offer to mend our broken hearts: He puts a new heart in us each time we go to confession, and strengthens us so we can follow the path to Heaven again!



TAKE SOME TIME OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS OR WEEKS TO MAKE A GOOD EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE. ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GUIDE YOU AS YOU TRY TO REMEMBER ANY AREAS OF YOUR LIFE WHERE YOU FAILED IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, OTHERS OR YOURSELF; TIMES WHERE YOU FAILED TO SHOW LOVE OR DELIBERATELY IGNORED GOD'S WILL OR GUIDANCE FOR YOUR LIFE. FIND OUT WHEN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH HAS CONFESSIONS AND DECIDE TO GO. YOU CAN PRAY FOR THE PRIEST IN ADVANCE TOO!



ACT OF SORROW:

O my God, I thank you for loving me. I am sorry for all my sins; for not loving others and not loving You. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again. Amen



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU REFLECT ON FORGIVENESS AND HEALING



From the Inside Out (Hillsong)

Prepare the Way (Charlie Hall)

Thank You (Jesus Army)

• Lord have mercy (MW Smith)

- All who are thirsty (Brenton Brown)
- Here's my heart Lord (David Crowder)
- Misericordias Domini (Taize)
- O Come to the Altar (Elevation Worship)

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!



Making a Good Confession 7:10 MINS Fr Mike Schmitz



How do I go to Confession? ODB Films



Examination of Conscience





WE ALL LIVE BY FAITH: WE TRUST THAT THE CHAIR WE SIT ON WON'T COLLAPSE UNDER US, THAT OUR PARENTS HAVEN'T POISONED OUR BREAKFAST CEREAL IN THE MORNING, THAT WHEN WE GO THROUGH A TRAIN TUNNEL WE'LL COME OUT THE OTHER SIDE. THINK OF ANY THREE THINGS YOU BELIEVE WITHOUT QUESTIONING. WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THEM?







THE DARE-DEVIL OF NIAGARA FALLS

In the summer of 1859, Charles Blondin famously walked 160 feet above Niagara Falls several times back and forth between Canada and the United States as huge crowds on both sides looked on with wonder. He didn't merely walk: he crossed in a sack, on stilts, on a bicycle and he even cooked on a stove up there. On July 15, Blondin walked backward across the tightrope to Canada and returned pushing a wheelbarrow.





He asked the amazed crowds for some audience participation. It is said that he asked his audience, "Do you believe I can carry a person across in this wheelbarrow?"

Of course the crowd shouted that yes, they believed! Then Blondin posed the question - "Who will get in the wheelbarrow?" No-one did.

What point is this story trying to make about faith?



Now read Mark 6:1-6

What point is this story trying to make about faith and lack of faith?





DISCUSS: Have you ever doubted God's power in your life? Do you know others who have doubts? Why do you think that is? What makes it difficult for people to accept God as Someone who cares deeply about you and wants the maximum of your happiness? Why do you think people find it hard to talk about faith with others sometimes?

DO WE MEAN BY

MARK 6:1-6

WATCH BOBBY ANGEL'S VIDEO: "WHAT DO WE MEAN BY FAITH?" (6:56 MINS)



• Faith is mor	re than just i	e.g. "I know fact	s about a person".
	an ee.g.		
• Faith is not	contrary to the m	•	
• Faith is a re	al g from God. I c	can know things intellect	tually about God, but to t
	ft from God. God is the O	-	
			ple: we can have the b that
	will fly. Faith is the trust of		
			ually putting my life i H
•	allowing Him to guide my	_	,,
	ĕ ĕ .	•	If I feel hurt by life,
	ith in G	1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	a b; it's no	ot against all e	
		•	going to have c 100% of
			but we can have
•	d the t that	,	
	God will redirect me	if I'm not on the right pa	ath "
		0 1	y Do you trust me?
	· ·	· ·	r on my p for your
		ooks totally d	
	-	_	we fall, we d, we d
		w He is God	
1			not in c of everything."
"I never had clarity;	That takes h		or everything.
what I have always	111at takes 11	•	

hat I have always had is trust." - Mother Teresa

> CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURE VERSES ABOUT FAITH. WRITE OUT THE ONE THAT SPEAKS THE MOST TO YOU AND THEN PUT IT ON A POST-IT TOO THAT YOU CAN KEEP SOMEWHERE YOU WILL SEE IT EVERY DAY FOR THE WEEK AHEAD!

- <u>Hebrews 11:1</u>
- 2 Corinthians 5:7

God the Father can be t_____, He knows you by n____ and He has great

Proverbs 3:5-6

- Matthew 17:20
- Matthew 21:22
- Mark 10:52





for you.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY:

CHECK OUT THERESE'S STORY OF HOW HER FAITH IN GOD HAS REALLY IMPACTED HER LIFE ON THE HOLY FAMILY MISSION YOUTUBE CHANNEL



Take some time out this week to pray to the Lord. If your faith is strong, thank God for that. If you're struggling, ask God to increase your faith. If you find it hard to believe in His goodness or His plan for your life, bring that to Him in honest heart-felt prayer. Why not journal your thoughts?

CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO IN TIMES OF STRUGGLES IN FAITH:



- What faith can do (Kutless)
- Walk by Faith (Jeremy Camp)
- Nothing I hold onto (Will Reagan) Your Promises (Elevation Worship)

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!





Jesus offers a number of invitations in this episode with varying responses. His circle of followers increases, even to the confusion of others.

Episode Resources:

page 64	• Summary Reflection Playlist
page 65	• Episode 7 Comprehension Questions
page 67	• The Call of Matthew (Art study)
page 68	• In His Shoes (Matthew Nicodemus)
page 69	• Doodle Prayer (John 3:16)
page 70	• One Solitary Life (Reflection)
page 71	• Born for greater things!
page 72	• Snapchat moment
page 73	• A Tax-Collector? Are you kidding me? (Dialogue)
page 74	• What should I do? (Discernment)
page 75	• What or who is the Trinity?

CHOSEN Episode 7: Invitations



Summary:

Jesus offers a number of invitations in this episode with varying responses. His circle of followers increases, even to the confusion of others.



Reflect on any of the following questions:

- What struck you the most from this week's episode? Any surprises? Challenges?
- What might you imagine your response would be if Jesus called you? When and where has He called you already?
- We've journeyed with both Nicodemus and Matthew for 7 episodes now. What have you learned from them? How do you feel towards them at the end of this episode?

	, c
Meditate:	
Scripture Passage(s) for this week:	Numbers 21:4-9 Matthew 9: 9-13
	See also: Mark 2 Luke 5 John 3
Note any words or phrases that star	nd out to you.
Act:	

Suggested Playlist for the Week:

- Graves into Gardens: Elevation Worship
- You Invite Me In: Meredith Andrews
- The Invitation: Hillsong

Click title to watch on You Tube

- Into Faith I go: Pat Barrett
- Here's my Heart: Casting Crowns
- Bible Project: The Book of Numbers















"Follow Me"

Matthew 9:9

Section A: Before watching the episode, reflect on the following:

Can you think of a time when you heard some news that you were really excited about?





Do you believe that people's characters can really change?

Section B: Watch the episode and answer the questions that follow:

- 1. When and where does the opening scene take place? ______. ____ BC.
- 2. What two Old Testament characters are we introduced to?
- 3. What did God instruct Moses to do to save the Israelites from the serpent bites?



- 4. List two of the three examples Moses gives to Joshua to show how God has saved His people, even if His ways have not always made sense.
- 5. Matthew justifies his self-reliance and way of life with Gaius: "When you realise that nobody else in the world cares about you, you think only ______."
- 6. When Zahora accuses Nicodemus of losing his senses in his relentless research in Capernaum, he responds, "I've never been _____
- 7. A number of references to people's attitude to Nazareth have been made already in Season 1 (e.g. nothing good comes from there). How does Quintus's reaction to Jesus' name show that Nazareth is an obscure place?



- 8. Jesus explains to John He is happy to move from place to place for two reasons. What are they?
- 9. What does Jesus do when He needs to think and pray?



- 10. Give two indications that Matthew's family have disowned him.
- 11. How is Matthew feeling at this moment about the miracles he has seen?

The CHOSEN Invitations Season 1, Episode 7

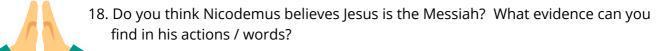
- 12. Matthew was a gifted child. Why is his mother so disappointed in him now?
- 13. What major difference does Nicodemus see between Jesus and the other *"fiery teachers"* in the desert?

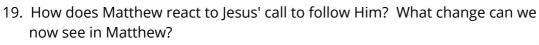


14. Jesus tries to explain the kingdom of Heaven to Nicodemus by speaking of the wind. Explain the metaphor He uses.

- 15. Jesus tells Nicodemus He has come to do more than preach and work miracles.

 He says He must be lifted up, like the bronze serpent at Paran, so that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life. What future event do you think Jesus is referring to?
- 16. Jesus has not come to liberate the people from Rome but to save them from ______.
- 17. What objections does Nicodemus have to following Jesus?







20. How does Simon react to the calling of Matthew? Why?

Section C: Personal reflection

1. What is your impression of Jesus in this episode? Does anything surprise you?



- 2. Which character do you most identify with in this episode? Explain your answer. Choose from *Nicodemus, Matthew, Simon, Matthew's mother, or Gaius.*
- 3. Jesus tells Simon to "Get used to different!" Why do you think this is a tagline / hashtag for The Chosen series, from what you have watched so far?



The CHOSEN Season 1, Episode 7

The Call of Matthew

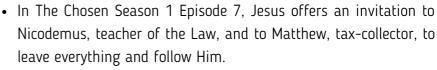


Carravagio's famous work, "The Calling of Saint Matthew" illustrates the passage in the Gospel of Matthew (Matthew 9:9), when Jesus invited the tax-collector, Matthew, to follow Him. According to the story Matthew rose and followed him. In the painting, Christ (on the right, behind Peter) points to Matthew, the tax-collector, (the bearded man wearing a beret) - and calls upon him to become the apostle Matthew.

As a tax-collector, how was Matthew used to being viewed / treated by the Jewish people?

Caravaggio, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons	What would have been different in the way Jesus looked at him?
How is the certainty / authority of Jesus conveyed in this painting?	
How does Matthew seem to be responding to this message?	
How does Carravagio draw our attention to Matthew in this painting? Look at his use of light / dark; hand gestures; guiding lines; facial express	sions.
How do you respond to this painting?	





• Imagine you are **one** of these characters reflecting back on the events of the day.

Write (or record) a diary entry of the day and the invitation you received.

Mention the following:

- · your thoughts about Jesus before this moment;
- · how He looked at you, spoke to you and made you feel;
- the words He used to invite you;
- how you reacted: did you hesitate, did something hold you back?
- how you are feeling at this moment.

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The CHOSEN Season 1, Episode 7 Doodle Prayer

JOHN 3:16

For God



that he gave

HIS ONG AND ONLY SON,

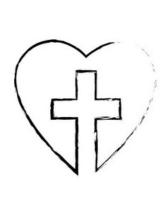
that whoever

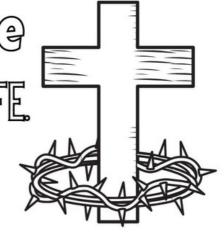
B9LIGVGS IN HIM

SHALL NOT PERISH

BUTHAVE









Read the reflection below slowly:

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant.

He grew up in another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was 30.

Then, for three years, he was an itinerant preacher.

He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a home. He didn't go to college. He never lived in a big city. He never travelled 200 miles from the place where he was born. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but himself.

He was only 33 when the tide of public opinion turned against him.

His friends ran away. One of them denied him.

He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial.

He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his garments, the only property he had on earth.

When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave, through the pity of a friend.

Twenty centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race. I am well within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned--put together--have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that one, solitary life.

Attributed to James Allen Francis.

What does it speak to your heart about the person of Jesus Christ?



The CHOSEN Season 1, Episode 7

Gifts and talents Seron For greater things "AD MAJORUM NATUM SUM!"

In Season 1 Episode 7, we are given a moving glimpse into the childhood of Matthew, a gifted young boy with a talent for reading, mathematics and problem solving that far exceeded that of his peers. Matthew decided to use those God-given gifts to serve Rome, and in the eyes of his family (and the rest of the Jewish people), to betray God and his people. Tax-collectors not only worked for Rome, the occupying force, but they used their skills at numeracy and literacy to cheat the largely illiterate people from more money than they owed, thus making a tidy profit for themselves.



Based on the series so far, what do you consider Matthew's greatest gifts and talents to be?
What kind of life was Matthew living because of the way he used his talents? Was he happy? Why do you think that was?
How might he he able to use these talents now as a dissiple of Christ?
How might he be able to use those talents now as a disciple of Christ?
What about you? Yes, You! What gifts and talents do you have? Sometimes it's easier to ask others "The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness!"
what they see in us, because we don't always recognise our own strengths. - Benedict XVI - - Benedict XVI -
List three practical ways you can use your gifts and talents to serve others and serve God?

Choose one and pick something practical you can do *this week* to develop that

talent or skill and use it to serve God and/or others:



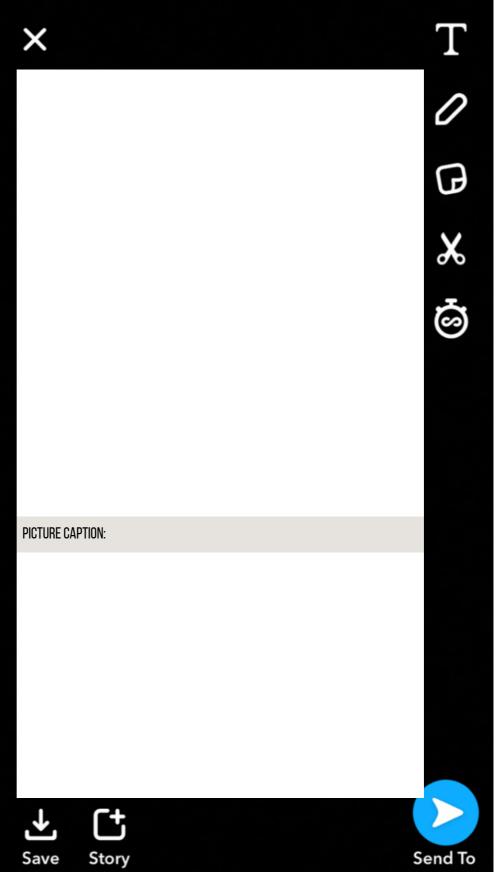
Snapchat

CHOOSE THE MOMENT
ONE OF THE DISCIPLES
RECEIVED THE
INVITATION
"FOLLOW ME" FROM
JESUS.

(Choose from Simon, Thomas, Matthew, James, John)

IMAGINE YOU WERE
AT THE SCENE.
CREATE A SNAPCHAT
USING THE TEMPLATE
TO CAPTURE WHAT
YOU SEE /
EXPERIENCE THERE.





Write the script!

Imagine you are Simon, telling your wife Eden that Jesus has just called Matthew, the tax-collector to join the ranks of the apostles!

Write the dialogue between them, keeping in mind the kind of character Simon is, his feelings towards Matthew, his protectiveness towards Jesus and his limited understanding of the mission so far.

Also bear in mind the person we have seen Eden to be, her faith in Jesus, her trust in God, her knowledge of her husband, and her temperament.



3 - Sillon L - Luen	You could role-play this with another person!



Do you find it difficult to make decisions? Do you struggle to know what the right thing to choose is? Are you unsure which door is the one to go through? College? Jobs? Friendships? Relationships? So many big decisions to make! Put simply, discernment is the Holy Spirit enlightening your intellect and will to help you know and choose the truth. There's usually some kind of process involved, although that varies in length. Discernment is not sitting back and thinking, "Sure, God will do everything so I'll just wait for Him to move", nor is it a feeling or the consequence of an arbitrary sign. The Holy Spirit will absolutely help you, but we have to cooperate with His promptings - we can't just wait around and not take any action ourselves. Pray, discern, and then act. Take responsibility for your decisions. Even if you make the wrong decision, the Lord will still be with you and will provide a way for you to get back on the right track.

FR MIKE SCHMITZ: 4 DOORS OF DISCERNMENT

Watch Fr Mike Schmitz' video: "4 Helpful Rules for Discernment" and try to see how you could apply these "doors" to your discernment process.



IS THIS A GOOD DOOR?

Often the answer is yes. Sometimes you have several good options before you. But if you know it will be unhealthy for you or against God's law, then you should not choose it.



IS THIS AN OPEN DOOR?

Is this even possible? Is this a reality? For example, you should not try to get in the NBA if you have no basketball skills.



IS THIS A WISE DOOR?

Knowing who I am and where I've been, my struggles, my strengths and weaknesses, the person I want to be: is this the choice I need to make? Will it lead me closer to Jesus or not?



IS THIS A DOOR THAT I WANT?

Unless you are sure that God is calling you there, if you don't desire it then you don't have to choose it. God has given us so much freedom. He wants us to use our intellect and will to choose.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT (BY ST AUGUSTINE)



Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. Amen.

MORE GREAT VIDEO RESOURCES!

- How to discern what God has planned for you
- Discernment 101
- The key to discernment
- How to discern pretty much anything
- God I look to you Francesca Battistelli



6:30 minutes

- "THE CHOSEN - SERIES 1" RESOURCE PACK BY ASCEND YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY | APOSTLES OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

IN THE NAME
OF THE FATHER,
AND OF THE SON,
AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

AMEN!

WHO IS GOD?



What words would you use to describe the Christian understanding of who or how God is?

	Fill in the blanks: "God so	the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone
* /	who believes in him won't perish but	will have eternal life." (John 3:16)
	"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is go	ood, His endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34

We are used to hearing the idea that God loves us. But God is so much more than that, God IS Love!

EVER HAD A SECRET TO SHARE?

Can you think of a time when you were just bursting to share a secret with someone? Who did you decide to tell? Why did you choose that person? How did it feel to be able to share something so personal with someone else? What are the risks of telling someone a secret?



WATCH FR JOHN PARKS EXPLAIN: WHAT IS THE TRINITY? IN THIS LIFETEEN VIDEO



GOD'S INNERMOST SECRET



Paragraph 221 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "God's very being is love. By sending his only Son and the Spirit of Love in the fullness of time, **God** has revealed his innermost secret: **God** himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and he has destined us to share in that exchange."

God's innermost secret is that God is a Trinity, but this secret isn't like a mystery God is trying to hide. We call the Trinity a *mystery* because unless God had revealed it, we would never have known it... and He WANTS us to know it, because God wants to be known as God really is. Unless we know God, we can't love Him.



Think of something that was like a mystery to you until someone explained it to you.

Now, think about the people you love, and the people you want to love you. Do you want them to love a version of you they make up, or do you want to be known and loved for who you really are? God wants to be known and loved for who God is... and so has revealed his Trinitarian nature to us, inviting us into that communion of love too!



1+1+1=?

1 = 3 and 3 = 1?? One God = Three Persons? Sounds like bad Maths! We're not talking about mathematical equations here however, but supernatural realities. We need to try to understand the mystery of the Trinity, rather than just dismiss it because it doesn't seem logical. We often say that humans are mind and matter, body and soul. God is three distinct persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but all fully possess the divine substance, or simply said, all are entirely God.





Remember how St Patrick used a shamrock to explain the Trinity to the people of Ireland? Each leaf is distinct with the full substance of the shamrock, yet all three make up one shamrock plant. It's important too to not get too tied up in analogies. They are limited and can only bring us so far in understanding the concept of the Trinity.

HOW CAN I HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TRINITY?

- Throughout the Old Testament, God reveals Himself as the One True God who created all things and called His people to Himself. Jesus revealed to us that God is our Father, and asked us to pray to Him in the "Our Father". Jesus called God "Abba", which actually translates as Daddy. God the Father loves us and wants us to come to Him as His children and experience His Fatherly love and presence.
- Jesus is the only Person of the Trinity who had a human form we call that the mystery of the Incarnation. Jesus was born as a tiny baby, grew up, ate, slept, drank, worked, had friends, knew joy, betrayal, pain - He felt all this in his human nature, although fully divine also. His death and resurrection opened the way to Heaven for us. We can think of Jesus as our Brother.
- When Jesus ascended to the Father, He promised His disciples that He would send them the Paraclete, the *Holy Spirit*, to be their helper and guide. The Holy Spirit didn't just make an appearance at this time in history however! From the very beginning of creation, the Spirit was moving over the earth, breathing life into all creatures. The Holy Spirit is still active in the Church, in creation and in our own hearts today, drawing us into a relationship with God the Father, into the communion of the Trinity.
- Simply put, God is like a Family: God is Father, Jesus is our Brother, the Holy Spirit is the Love that unites us.

GOD IS LOVE



In order for love to exist, you need 3 parts: the One who loves (lover), the Beloved and the Love. God the Father loves the Son, the Son loves the Father, and the love between them is so great, the Spirit proceeds from their love. The Father loves the Son and gives Him everything, the Son receives that love and gives everything back to the Father, and that Love in itself IS the third Person of the Trinity, the Spirit.

In the Nicene Creed we pray: "I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, ... begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father". Jesus is of the same substance as the Father, eternally begotten, He always existed. The Spirit "proceeds from the Father and the Son": the Spirit IS the love between the Father and the Son, so strong that the Love is another Person.



How do these symbols attempt to explain the **Trinity?**



TIME TO REFLECT

CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL NICENE CREED

- Reflect on your understanding of each Person of the Trinity. Spend some time praying from your heart to each distinct Person of the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, the Holy Spirit. The songs below might help you to do this.
- Make a conscious effort each time you bless yourself in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

WHAT DO WE LEARN ABOUT CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DIVINE PERSONS IN THESE SONGS?

Chris Tomlin: Good Good Father

Housefires: Jesus what a Saviour Audrey Assad: Spirit of the Living God





Jesus visits Simon's house. He also feels pressure from both Jewish leaders and Roman authorities. Lastly, Jesus and His followers make an important visit to Jacob's well in Samaria.

Episode Resources:

page 78	• Summary Reflection Playlist
page 79	• Episode 8 Comprehension Questions
page 81	• In His Shoes (Nicodemus)
page 82	• Shout it out!
page 83	• Cry of the Heart (Woman at the well)
page 84	• Litany of Trust
page 85	• Need to declutter your life?

CHOSEN



Episode 8: I am He

Summary:

Jesus visits Simon's house. He also feels pressure from both Jewish leaders and Roman authorities. Lastly, Jesus and His followers make an important visit to Jacob's well in Samaria.



Reflect on any of the following questions:

- What struck you the most from this week's episode? Surprises? Challenges?
- What aspect of this Gospel story took on a new meaning for you?
- What aspect of Jesus was highlighted by this episode / encounter?

 How might you have reacted if you met Jesus at the well? How might you have reacted if you were the disciples having returned to the well to witness Jesus' encounter?
Meditate:
Scripture Passage(s) for this week: John 4:1-42
Note any words or phrases that stand out to you.
Act:
What is it you think the Lord is calling you to do this week?

Suggested Playlist for the Week:

- I will offer up my life (Matt Redman)
- Surrender (Marc James)
- I will Follow (Chris Tomlin)

Click title to watch on You Tube

- Heart of Worship (Matt Redman)
- Living Water (Gateway Worship)
- Bible Project: Overview: Genesis 12-50













"I see you."

Section A: Before watching the episode, reflect on the following:



Can you think of a time when you felt left out by others? Where you felt invisible? What did you want to see happen?

What do you know about the biblical Jacob? Find out: what Old Testament does his story appear in? Who was his grandfather? Who was his father? Who were his sons?

Section B: Watch the episode and answer the questions that follow:

- 1. When and where does the opening scene take place? _____, ____, ____ BC
- 2. List two things Yassib finds so strange about the God Jacob chose to believe in?
- 3. Jacob answers that they didn't choose God (El Shaddai), rather He ______
 - and the trief didn't enough dod (2) bridded, in the ______
 - 4. Describe the kind of life Photina is living, and how it impacts her daily?
- 5. When the pharisee Yussif sees Jesus at Matthew's house, he claims he would not be caught dead eating with tax collectors and sinners. How does Jesus reply?



6. Jesus quotes the scroll of Hosea to Yussif, that what God wants is _____ more than



- 7. How does Matthew try to describe his decision to leave everything behind in terms Gaius will understand? What does he mean?
- 8. Nicodemus' grandmother had an inscription in her house: Adonai El Roi what does it mean?
- 9. Nicodemus' wife comments that "when we stumble onto hard paths, God finds us and comforts us", but Nicodemus replies: "or does He lead us there?"

 What do you think this might signify about the thoughts and emotions Nicodemus is feeling at the moment?



10. What seems to drive Schmuel's faith and decisions, based on his conversation with Nicodemus?

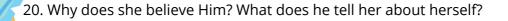
The CHOSEN I am He Season 1, Episode 8

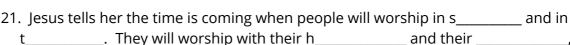


- 11. Why is Eden's role in the mission of Simon (and Jesus) so significant?
- 12. What does Simon's mother-in-law do the instant she is healed?
- 13. What three languages does Quintus have his warning notice written in?
- 14. At what other point in the Gospels do we hear Pontius Pilate doing something similar?



- 15. What contrast is there between the disciples leaving their homes, and Nicodemus' wife preparing to do the same?
 - 16. Why are the disciples so shocked that Jesus wants to travel through Samaria?
- 17. Why is Photina, the woman at the well so shocked that Jesus would ask her for water?
- 18. What does Jesus offer the woman at the well, something she finds difficult to understand at first?
- 19. Who does He reveal Himself to be to this woman?





22. Jesus tells His disciples that He has food. What is this food He is talking about?



Section C: Personal reflection

1. What is your impression of Jesus in this episode? Does anything surprise you?



- 2. Which character do you most identify with in this episode? Explain your answer. Choose from *Nicodemus, Gaius, Photina, Eden, or Simon*.
- 3. "You came so close." (Jesus to Nicodemus) Why do you think Nicodemus is so distraught when Jesus is leaving Capernaum?



The Sholl

In The Chosen Season 1 Episode 8, Nicodemus chooses not to follow Jesus, although he does leave money for Jesus and His disciples. He is shown, hiding around the corner, torn by his decision and

visibly upset. Rewatch the scene from 34:08 - 36:13

What do you think is going through Nicodemus' mind at this time? Imagine you are Nicodemus. Write an interior monologue to capture your thoughts and feelings in those moments. Use the following questions to guide you.

- · Would are you arguing with yourself about?
- · What decision is tearing you apart?
- · What do you know to be true?
- · What holds you back?
- · What would you like Jesus to know?
- · How is your heart feeling as you watch Jesus leave?



Write in the first person and present tense, capturing the whirlwind of his thoughts in those heart-breaking moments.

Come, see a man who told me everything T ever did.. Tohn 4:29

Who was the Samaritan woman at the well?

- The woman at the well is recognised traditionally as St Photina, whose name means "light".
- Tradition tells us that Photina died a martyr at Carthage, having been a powerful witness to Christ throughout her life, even supposedly converting the daughter of Nero.

Learn more about her <u>here!</u>

https://catholic.net/op/articles/2819/cat/1205/st-photina.html

Spread the message

The woman at the well shared her personal testimony with everyone she met, and drew crowds of people to believe in Jesus as Messiah.



Henryk Siemiradzki, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Why do you think her testimony was so compelling for others?

Go viral!

- If the woman at the well had access to modern means of communication, how do you think she would share her story?
- Choose one form of social media:
 Facebook / Instagram / TikTok / Snapchat /
 YouTube / Blog / Vlog / Twitter / Email
- Imagine the type of message she might have created with this media type.
- Work on your own or in a group to produce this message, using images, text, video, music... whatever fits with your chosen form of social media.
- Re-read the Gospel Passage first: <u>John 4:1-42</u>
- Remember to stay as true as possible to the character of the woman at the well and faithful to the message of the Gospel she shared.

Rewatch Jesus' interaction with Photina, the Samaritan woman at the well. Up until this point, her faith in God has been shaky. She feels she has received nothing from Him. After this encounter, her eyes are opened and everything changes for her.

Tournal

What prayer do you think Photina would pray from her heart after this encounter? What has she learned about the Messiah, about God's plan for her and for all His people? What way has she now been encouraged to worship and pray? What would she be grateful for? What would she feel she should repent of? What would she ask for God's strength to do now?

Adonai El Roi...





Written by **Sr. Faustina Maria Pia**- www.sistersoflife.org

From the belief that I have to earn Your love... Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear that I am unlovable.... Deliver me, Jesus.

From the false security that I have what it takes.... Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear that trusting You will leave me more destitute.... Deliver me, Jesus.

From all suspicion of Your words and promises... Deliver me, Jesus.

From the rebellion against childlike dependency on You... Deliver me, Jesus.

From refusals and reluctances in accepting Your will... Deliver me, Jesus.

From anxiety about the future... Deliver me, Jesus.

From resentment or excessive preoccupation with the past... Deliver me, Jesus.

From restless self-seeking in the present moment... Deliver me, Jesus.

From restless self-seeking in the present moment... Deliver me, Jesus.

From disbelief in Your love and presence... Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear of being asked to give more than I have... Deliver me, Jesus.

From the belief that my life has no meaning or worth... Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear of what love demands... Deliver me, Jesus.

From discouragement... Deliver me, Jesus.

That You are continually holding me sustaining me, loving me.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That Your love goes deeper than my sins and failings, and transforms me.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That not knowing what tomorrow brings is an invitation to lean on You.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That you are with me in my suffering.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That my suffering, united to Your own,

will bear fruit in this life and the next.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That You will not leave me orphan, that You are present in Your Church.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That Your plan is better than anything else.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That You always hear me and in Your goodness always respond to me.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That You give me the grace to accept forgiveness and to forgive others.... Jesus, I trust in you.

That You give me all the strength I need for what is asked... Jesus, I trust in you.

That my life is a gift... Jesus, I trust in you.

That You will teach me to trust You... Jesus, I trust in you.

That You are my Lord and my God... Jesus I trust in you.

That I am Your beloved one... Jesus, I trust in you.

IMAGINE THERE WAS A FIRE IN YOUR HOUSE AND YOU COULD ONLY SAVE 3 ITEMS (ASSUMING EVERY PERSON / PET IS SAFE!) WHAT WOULD YOU SAVE AND WHY?



3

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT YOURSELF

- Do you struggle to keep your bedroom tidy?
- Do you struggle to find things because they're usually buried under layers!
- · Do you like keeping mementoes of special occasions.
- · How reluctant are you to let people borrow your stuff?





DID YOU KNOW THAT STUDIES PROVE THAT THOSE WHOSE BEDROOMS ARE UNCLUTTERED SLEEP BETTER, AND THOSE WHOSE OFFICES ARE UNCLUTTERED SEEM TO BE MORE PRODUCTIVE? WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?

PICTURE THIS: YOU'RE AWAY FROM HOME FOR THE DAY AND YOU REALISE YOU FORGOT TO BRING YOUR PHONE ON A SCALE OF 1 - 10, HOW ANXIOUS DO YOU FEEL WITHOUT YOUR PHONE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS?





























Not bothered!

Now read Mark 6:7-13

What do you think this Gospel can teach us about detachment?



Put yourself in the shoes (or sandals!) of the disciples. How do you think you would feel, being told to take nothing with you, and rely totally on God to provide for your needs?

NEED TO DECLUTTER YOUR LIFE?

WATCH FR MIKE SCHMITZ' VIDEO: LEARNING DETACHMENT FROM YOUR STUFF

How does Fr Mike describe the vow of simplicity he took when ordained? How is it different to a vow of poverty?



"Some things we own end up owning us." What do you think this means? DISCUSS.

Be honest with yourself. What "stuff" do you think you are most attached to? What has a hold of your heart?

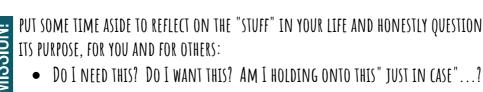


Can you think of anything you're holding onto "just in case" (not because you need it or want it?)

Some decluttering mantras will tell you to ask "Does this spark joy?" when you look at an object. What three questions does Fr Mike suggest we should ask as Christians?

2

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• TASK: THIS WEEK, TACKLE YOUR CLUTTER! START SMALL IF YOU HAVE TO, BUT START.

PRAYER TIME!

Pray before you begin to declutter: Lord, guide my actions and thoughts today. Grant me the vision to see the value in what I need to keep and how to use it for you, the generosity to see what to give away and bless others, and the wisdom to know what to throw away and be free of. All for your glory. Amen!



CREATE A PLAYLIST TO LISTEN TO AS YOU SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE AND DECLUTTER!



- Simplicity (Rend Collective)
- Gratitude (Nicole Nordeman)
- All Things New (Hillsong)
- Everything (Tim Hughes)
- To God be the Glory (Worship Central)
- Better (Pat Barrett)
- Everything (Lauren Daigle)
- One Thing (Hillsong)

Click the links for the YouTube videos to listen to some suggestions!





Bonus Resources

page 88	The Chosen: Reflections
page 89	Lectio Divina Guide
page 90	Character Comparison
page 91	Places in the Chosen (puzzle)
page 92	Create the Merchandise!
page 93	His Heart
page 94	Litany of Humility
page 95	The Angelus
page 96	The Person of Jesus
page 97	Group Activities
page 98	Bonus Content
page 99	Terminology
page 100	Puzzle Answers





In the Beginning...

Do you know anything about *The Chosen* before watching this series? What were your expectations when you started? What were your concerns?

What were your thoughts/feelings after seeing a few episodes? How did your enjoyment/ engagement with the characters deepen over time?

Characters...

- Mary Magdalen
- Simon
- Andrew
- James & John (sons of Zebedee)
- Nicodemus
- Matthew
- Shmuel (synagogue leader)
- Gaius (Centurion/Matthew's guard)
- Quintus (Roman Praetor)
- Zohara (Nicodeumus' wife)
- Eden (Simon's wife)
- Mary, the Mother of Jesus
- Those Jesus healed
- Jesus

- Which character do you identify with the most? Why?
- Which character intrigues you, draws you, captivates you? Why?
- Who surprised you the most? Made you laugh or cry the most?
 Who's missing from our list that left an impression on you?

_		

Scripture...

Has your relationship with the Bible/Scripture changed in any way since watching this series? If so, how?

We know this will be a multi-season show. What scripture passage (that we haven't seen) are you most hoping will make an appearance in future episodes? Why?

You're invited...

As you look back on your experience with The Chosen Series, is there a poem, a piece or artwork (original or otherwise), a contemporary song or anything else that helps you articulate what this journey has meant to you?

PICK A PASSAGE FROM SCRIPTURE



LECTIO = READING

What does the scripture passage say in and of itself, that everyone should understand?

(Ascension Presents)



MEDITATIO = MEDITATION

Find something, a line or a word, that sticks out to you and begin it meditate on it. What does the text say to me, today, and to my life? What is it speaking into my heart?



ORATIO = PRAYER

We speak to God about what we read and meditated on. We can intercede for others. We can pray in thanksgiving. We can ask for forgiveness. We can ask God for His grace (help) to live out what we feel called to do.



CONTEMPLATIO = CONTEMPLATION

What conversion of the mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me? This step is a gift from God - we can't make it happen! We spend time looking at him and letting Him look at us. If He leads you into deep prayer, go with it. If not, just chill with the Lord.



ACTIO = ACTION

What concrete action can I do based on my time of reading, meditating, praying and maybe contemplating with the Lord.

CHARACTER COMPARISON

Throughout the first few episodes of Season 1, we see the same themes through the eyes and experience of four main characters. Pick one to write about:

Family | Forgiveness | Doubt/Faith | Call

THEME:



Matthew

Mary Magdalen

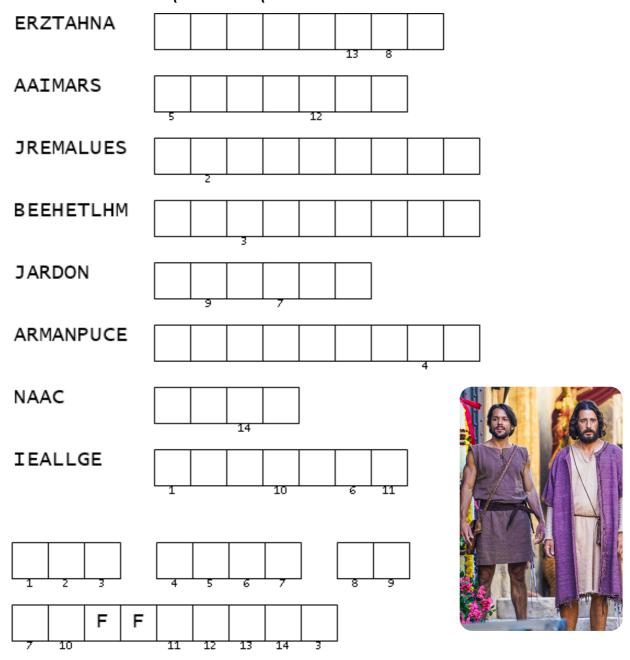


Simon

Nicodemus THE CHOSEN – SERTES 1" RESOURCE PACK BY ASCEND YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY | APOSTLES OF THE SACRED HEART OF mages from: https://www.press.thechosen.tv/



Unscramble the place names and use the letters to work out the hidden phrase spoken by Jesus to Simon!



For bonus points, can you link these places to relevant characters and Key scenes from Season 1 of The Chosen?

Create the Merchanniso.

Design a tshirt based on a Key message / quote / scene / theme from The Chosen Season 1!





Create a Collage

- On a large sheet of paper, create a collage of headlines / images that show the wounded heart of today's world: where are people suffering? Where is healing needed?
- When you have pasted the images to the sheet, spend some time praying for these situations, asking Jesus to bind up all wounds, to bring healing, comfort and consolation, and to touch the hearts of those who have the power to make a change also. Pray with expectant faith, knowing that Jesus hears your prayer, and that He cares!
- Then cut out (or create your own) image of the Sacred Heart and paste the image on top of your collage, along with some of the words we heard Jesus speak in this episodes. Hang the collage as a reminder to pray each day for those who need to feel Jesus' love in their lives.





O Jesus, meek and humble of heart, From the desire of being esteemed, From the desire of being loved, From the desire of being extolled, From the desire of being honoured, From the desire of being praised, From the desire of being preferred to others, From the desire of being consulted, From the desire of being approved, From the fear of being humiliated, From the fear of being despised, From the fear of suffering rebukes, From the fear of being calumniated, From the fear of being forgotten, From the fear of being ridiculed, From the fear of being wronged, From the fear of being suspected,

deliver me O Jesus. deliver me O Jesus.

hear me.

That others may be loved more than I,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be esteemed more than I,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That, in the opinion of the world,
others may increase and I may decrease,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be chosen and I set aside,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be praised and I go unnoticed,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be preferred to me in everything,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may become holier than I,

Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

provided that I may become as holy as I should,



THE ANGELUS PRAYER ONLY
TAKES ABOUT TWO MINUTES, SO
IT'S A REALLY EASY WAY TO ADD
REGULAR PRAYER INTO YOUR DAY!



STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

Are you someone who needs technology to set reminders for you? Many people today use their smart-watches, phones or Fitbits to remind them to stay hydrated, or to get up from their desks and move. It's good for our health and well-being. Some even set alarms when to go to bed, as well as when to get up! We often need something outside of ourselves to interrupt what we are doing and remind us of what's important - we can struggle with discipline and balance in our own lives. Life is busy and shows no sign of slowing down! Simple reminders or alarms are often necessary for our physical health, but also for our spiritual health too.

DONG - DONG - DONG!?

You might be familiar with the Angelus bell at 6pm on RTÉ 1. You may not be familiar with the origins of it however. Catholics have been praying the Angelus for centuries. The Angelus bells ring out three times daily around the world, to interrupt the daily routines of Catholics, reminding them to turn their thoughts towards God and heavenly things. Even non-Catholics can find the interruption useful, a call to lift oneself out of busy routines, and reflect on the important things in life, for just a moment.

The famous painting by Jean-François Millet depicting labourers in a field, stopping to pray the Angelus when they hear the bells ringing in the distance.

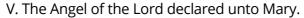


TOO BUSY TO STOP?

We can always convince ourselves when we hear the Angelus bells that we're too busy at that moment to stop and pray, but adding a little discipline to our lives, creating a God-space for just 2 out of the 1440 minutes in each day, reminds us that we can choose how we order our day, and give a dedicated time back to God, in thanksgiving.

PRAYING THE ANGELUS

The prayer begins with the story of the Angel Gabriel visiting Mary. We walk with Mary from that moment of the Annunciation to the birth of Jesus, and then we remember how Jesus died and rose from the grave to save us because He loves us - that's definitely worth two minutes of reflection each day!



R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to Your word. Hail Mary...

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY:

Pour forth, we beseech You O Lord, Your grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Your Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.





Bring together what has been said about Jesus in Series 1 by writing relevant words / drawing images in the space below.

What others reveal about Jesus through their words and actions

What Jesus reveals about Himself through His words and actions



Your own impression of Jesus from this series



WALKING DEBATE

- 1. Place AGREE and DISAGREE signs on either side of the room. Gather all participants in the centre of the room.
- 2. Invite participants to indicate whether they agree or disagree with your choice of the following statements (or ones you decide on yourself) by standing under the agree or disagree signs.
- 3. Draw feedback from participants after each statement is read. Ask why they took the position they did note if any participants changed position based on the contributions of others.
 - a) Nicodemus was weak and foolish not to follow Jesus.
 - b) Matthew has wronged his people too much to be accepted as a follower of Jesus now.
 - c) The Chosen series should stick strictly to what we read in the Gospels and not add back-stories.
 - d) The Chosen series' depiction of Jesus is too focused on His human nature.
 - e) Schmuel was correct to be so hostile to Jesus' teaching.

SCAVENGER HUNT

Divide the participants into small groups. Give the groups one of the the following lists (or a list of your choice) and ask them to bring back something that represents the name or concept on the list. They must be prepared to defend their choices and explain the reasoning behind their selection. Encourage them to be as creative as possible. (This can be done with a time limit in person or on zoom, or set as an activity to complete at home and bring back to the next gathering for discussion).

Simon
A miracle Jesus worked in the series
Nicodemus
Gaius (the Roman Centurion)
Mary (Mother of Jesus)
The humanity of Jesus
Matthew

	(the woman at the well)
Andrew	
A parabi	e Jesus told in the series
Schmuel	l
Thomas	
A place .	Jesus travelled to
Marv of	Magdala

HUMAN SCRABBLE

- Materials: Index cards with letters of the alphabet on them (or use A4 laminated sheets). Each participant should have 2 3 letters. If they have an uncommon letter, make sure they have a commonly used letter to go with it too. Include a few extra vowels (A,E,I,O,U) and consider removing the X, Q and Z from the selection (or allowing a group to swap for one of these if they really need it e.g. Quintus / Zohara!)
- **Instructions**: Tell the group their task is to arrange themselves into complete words given their selected letters. The words they form must be related to The Chosen Series i.e. character names, places, relevant concepts e.g. miracle / healing / leper / well / conversion etc.
- You can make it more challenging each round by deciding on a set number of letters each word can have: e.g. five letter words (Simon / leper / Jesus) or characters only etc.





CHECK OUT THE BONUS CONTENT AVAILABLE ON THE CHOSEN WEBSITE:

Click the links to watch

- The Woman at the Well: Why is this encounter so significant?
- A Beautiful Chosen Moment: One Teen's Special Moment with the Chosen Series
- · The Story Behind the Chosen: How this series came to be made
- New "Trouble" Trailer: Reviewing Season 1 with a particular slant!
- · Season One Official Trailer

DIVE DEEPER: BIBLICAL ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:

- Season 1 Episode 1
- Season 1 Episode 2
- Season 1 Episode 3
- Season 1 Episode 4

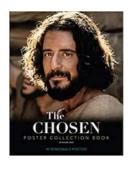


Biblical Accuracy, Ecumenical Differences and Similarities

Click the links to watch

- Season 1 Episode 5
- Season 1 Episode 6
- Season 1 Episode 7
- Season 1 Episode 8

WORTH A LOOK!



The Chosen Poster Collection Book: Season One

40 full-colour removable posters taken directly from the first season

Available from amazon.co.uk or bookdepository.com



What Does It Mean to Be Chosen?, Volume 1 : An Interactive Bible Study

By Amanda Jenkins , Dallas Jenkins , Douglas Huffman

The official companion study to season 1 of The Chosen

Available from amazon.co.uk or bookdepository.com



The Chosen Season 1 DVD Box Set

Available from amazon.co.uk



Pay it Forward!

Your choice to pay it forward funds future seasons and keeps The Chosen free around the world.

Go to www.thechosen.tv for details on how to donate





Terminology

HEBREW / JEWISH / ROMAN TERMS

ABBA: Hebrew for Father / Dad / Daddy

ADONAI: Hebrew word for Lord. God revealed Himself as YHWH to Moses; however the

Jews hold this name as so sacred that they never pronounce the word, but

substitute the word Adonai instead

CENTURION: an officer commanding a Roman century (army)

EEMA: Hebrew for Mother / Mom / Mammy!

SHEMA: The Jewish confession of faith made up of Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21 and

Numbers 15:37-41; The word Shema itself translate as "listen", but the

implication is that to listen is to obey - a sign of the Covenant

PRAETOR: The title granted by the government of Ancient Rome to a man acting in one of

two official capacities: (i) the commander of an army, and (ii) as an elected

magistratus (magistrate), assigned to discharge various duties

PRIMI ORDINES: The "ranks of the first [cohort]" were the five centurions of the first cohort, and

included the primus pilus. They, excluding the primus pilus, were paid 30 times the base wage. This rank is senior to all other centurions, save the primus pilus

and pilus prior. (From Wikipedia)

RABBI: A Jewish religious leader, usually one who is in charge of a synagogue, one who is

qualified to teach Judaism, or one who is an expert on Jewish law.

SANHREDRIN: The ancient Jewish court system was called the Sanhedrin. The word "Sanhedrin"

is a combination of two Greek words meaning, "seated together." They were a

ruling body of seventy-one members with the High Priest as the chief officer.

SCRIBES

AND

PHARISEES:

In the 1st century, scribes and Pharisees were two largely distinct groups, though presumably some scribes were Pharisees. Scribes had knowledge of the law and could draft legal documents (contracts for marriage, divorce, loans, inheritance,

mortgages, the sale of land, and the like). Every village had at least one scribe. Pharisees were members of a party that believed in resurrection and in following legal traditions that were ascribed not to the Bible but to "the traditions of the

fathers." (www.britannica.com)

SHABBAT: Shabbat is often translated in English as 'Sabbath.' Sabbath - the holy day of the

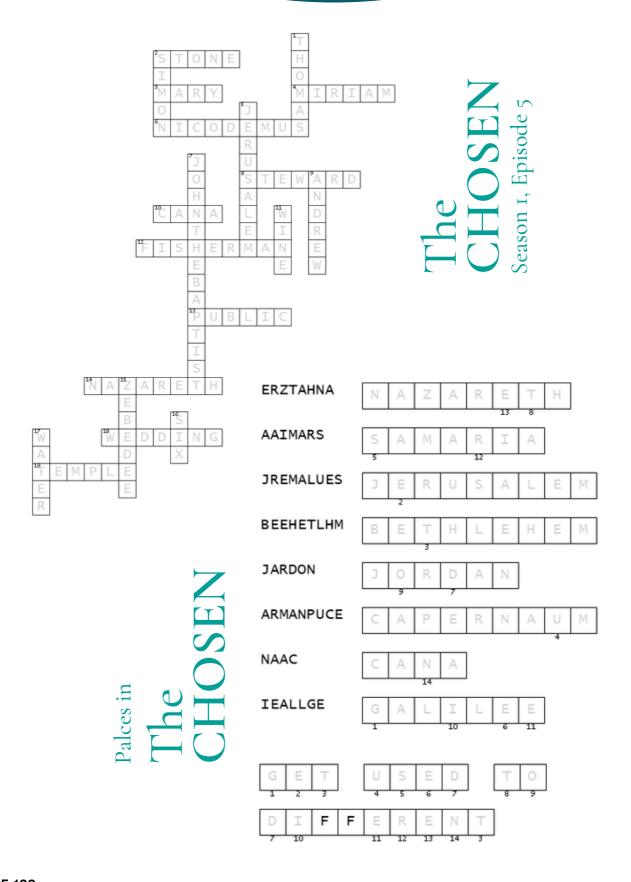
Jews, celebrated on Saturday

SHALOM: A common greeting that Jews say during Sabbath is "Shabbat Shalom," which

means, "Sabbath Peace," more or less. Kind of like wishing your friend a happy Sabbath. Except that the word "shalom" refers to more than peace. It's a kind of Godly wholeness, completeness, contentment...a rightness of being. Like

everything is well and nothing is missing or wrong.

Puzzle Answers



This resource book is designed to accompany "The Chosen" Series, Season 1. Feel free to use whatever elements of this resource you feel best suit the ability and age of the young people you teach / work with.

Find out more about "The Chosen"











Download "The Chosen" App



LINKS TO JUNIOR CYCLE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1.5 explore the presence of religious themes in contemporary culture through an examination of art, music, literature or film
- 1.6 examine and appreciate how people give expression to religious belief in religious rituals, in formal places of worship and other sacred spaces
- 1.7 discuss the significance of non-religious rituals/celebrations for people's lives
- 1.8 describe the role of prayer in the lives of people of faith
- 1.9 explain what was involved in the development of a particular sacred text within a major world religion and consider its continued significance for the lives of believers
- 1.12 synthesise and consider the insights gained about how people express and live out their beliefs, religious or otherwise
- 2.2 consider responses from one major world religion and from a non-religious worldview to some big questions about the meaning of life, such as, Why are we here? How should we live? What happens when we die?
- 2.4 research and present the understanding of the Divine found in two major world religions drawing upon their origins in sacred texts and/or other sources of authority
- 2.8 present stories of individuals or groups in the history of two major world religions that have had a positive impact on the lives of people because of their commitment to living out their beliefs.
- 2.9 describe how the faith of a believer can change at different stages in life
- 3.1 examine different sources of values and ways in which the values of a person relate to their everyday choices, their relationships, and their responsibilities to others
- 3.2 reflect upon and discuss what it means to be moral, why people living in society need to be moral and what are the influences on and the sources of authority for a person's moral decision-making

JUNIOR CYCLE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - CBA 1: A PERSON OF COMMITMENT

During a period of three weeks, with support/guidance by the teacher, students will research and report on a person whose religious beliefs or worldview have had a positive impact on the world, past or present.

LINKS TO LEAVING CERTIFICATE NON-EXAM FRAMEWORK FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Section A: The Search for Meaning

Topic 1: Contemporary expressions of the search for meaning.

The great questions concerning the goal and purpose of life, the meaning of good and evil and the experience of suffering. • Avoiding the search - the experience of indifference.

Topic 3: The meaning of suffering and evil as understood by a religious perspective.

Examples of people whose lives are influenced by their faith. Contemporary expressions of a new spirituality

Section B: Christianity

Topic 1: Jesus - his life and times

The political, social and religious systems in Palestine at the time of Jesus. • Historical evidence for Jesus. • Different expectations of the Messiah at the time of lesus. • lewish understanding of the Kingdom of God. • lesus' vision of the Kingdom of God. • Jesus' message in conflict with the establishment.

Section D: Morality in Action

Topic 1: Becoming Moral

Why be moral? Influences on moral principles: peers, family, media, culture, religion, etc. • The role of religion in informing conscience?

Topic 2: Morality and Religious Belief:

The Christian understanding of sin and reconciliation • Jesus ethical vision of 'right relationship'. • The influence of Jesus Jewish background on his moral vision - e.g. the golden rule. • The Christian understanding of sin and reconciliation.

Topic 3: Moral Dilemmas

The role of religion in moral decision-making.

Section E: God-Talk

Topic 1: My Image of God

• My image of God. • Images of God in art/music/literature & contemporary culture.

Section E: God-Talk

Topic 1: My Image of God

My image of God. • Images of God in art/music/literature & contemporary culture.

Topic 3: God "in the bits'n'pieces of the everyday":

Implications of images of God for life. • Signs and rituals – special moments of God's presence. • Non-Christian rituals

Section F: A Living Faith - doing Justice

Topic 2: Justice - at the heart of it all

The Judeo-Christian vision of justice. • Jesus and justice.

Section G: Celebrating Faith

Topic 1: The world of ritual

Secular ritual in contemporary culture. • Religious ritual in contemporary culture.

Topic 2: Prayer

• Exploring prayer as a need to communicate with God. • The nature and function of prayer. • Examples of prayer from different religious traditions. • Sacred spaces

Topic 3: Meditation and Contemplation

 \bullet The human need for reflection in a busy world $\, \bullet$ The use of sacred and inspirational texts in meditation

Section H: Story

Tonic 1: Story

- Stories that carry meaning and have transformative power.
- Topic 2: What is truth?
- Truth and sacred texts. Interpreting sacred texts with adult eyes

Topic 3: God's unfolding Story

God's story in many forms -the meaning of revelation in religious traditions. Where is God speaking today? • All part of God's story? • The student's



RESOURCE PACK PRODUCED BY ASCEND YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (DIOCESE OF WATERFORD & LISMORE) IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE APOSTLES OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

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