

SUMMER SMALL GROUPS

episode six

STUDY GUIDE



THE CHOSEN IS THE FIRST-EVER MULTI-SEASON TV SHOW ABOUT THE LIFE OF JESUS. CREATED OUTSIDE OF THE HOLLYWOOD SYSTEM, THE CHOSEN ALLOWS US TO SEE HIM THROUGH THE EYES OF THOSE WHO KNEW HIM.



THE CHOSEN

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Terms:

LEPER,
HERETIC, PARALYTIC

Characters:

NICODEMUS, SHMUEL, JESUS,
MARY MAGDALENE, MATTHEW
THE LEPER, TAMAR, JAMES,
JOHN, SIMON, ANDREW,
THE PARALYTIC

Scripture:

LUKE 5:12-14
MARK 2: 1-12
MATTHEW 6:1-8

WHAT QUOTE OR SCENE FROM THIS EPISODE WAS THE MOST MEANINGFUL OR IMPACTFUL TO YOU? WHY?
WHICH CHARACTERS STOOD OUT TO YOU THE MOST?

1. HOW DID THE DISCIPLES' REACTION TO THE LEPER DIFFER FROM JESUS' REACTION? WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE THEY THOUGHT WHEN JESUS TOUCHED HIM? AND WHEN HE HEALED HIM?
2. HOW CAN YOU CONNECT WITH PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE WHO AREN'T PART OF THE "IN" CROWD AS JESUS DID? HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR YOU TO BE A PART OF THE IN CROWD? HOW IMPORTANT WAS IT TO JESUS?
3. HOW DID JESUS ADDRESS THE PHARISEES? HOW DID HE ADDRESS TAMAR? WHAT DOES THIS TELL US ABOUT WHAT JESUS WANTS FROM US?
4. WHAT MIGHT THE FRIENDS' THOUGHTS HAVE BEEN WHEN JESUS SAID "YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN" TO THE PARALYTIC? WHEN THE MAN TOOK HIS FIRST STEPS?
5. THE GOSPEL OF THE PARALYTIC IS READ ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT. WHY DO YOU THINK IT IS INCLUDED IN OUR READINGS EVERY YEAR? WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM HEARING IT SO OFTEN?

EPISODE SIX

show notes

EPISODE TITLE: INDESCRIBABLE COMPASSION
EPISODE LENGTH: 51:55 MINUTES

TALKING POINTS:

- THE PAWN BROKER'S REACTION TO THE LEPER
- REFERENCES TO JESUS' CHILDHOOD: HIS TIME IN EGYPT AND THE MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS
- MEETING SALOME, MOTHER OF JAMES AND JOHN
- MARY MAGDALENE BEING THE ONE WHO HELPED THE PARALYTIC'S FRIENDS REACH JESUS
- SHMUEL QUOTING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT TO NICODEMUS
- THE KIDS ARE BACK: "WE KNOW JESUS!"
- THE FILMMAKER'S DECISION TO PLACE SO MANY STORIES DIRECTLY FROM SCRIPTURE IN JESUS' TEACHING IN THE HOUSE - TOWER OF SILOAM, PERSISTENT WIDOW, PRAYING IN SECRET, THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE, SERVANTS OF THE BRIDEGROOM AT THE GATE, GRASS OF THE FIELD, PUTTING YOUR LIGHT ON A STAND
- "MATTHEW, ARE YOU LOST?" "YES, I AM."; MATTHEW IS STARTING TO REALIZE THAT HE NEEDS JESUS IN HIS LIFE

TERMS:

LEPER - A PERSON AFFLICTED BY LEPROSY, A VERY SERIOUS DISEASE WITH MANY SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS IMPLICATIONS. LEPEERS WERE CONSIDERED UNCLEAN AND WERE SEPARATED FROM OTHERS. THE LAW REQUIRED THAT A LEPER STAY EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY.

HERETIC - ANYONE WHO REJECTS DOCTRINES PRESCRIBED BY THE CHURCH.

PARALYTIC - A PERSON WHO HAS LOST OF THE ABILITY TO MOVE (AND SOMETIMES TO FEEL ANYTHING) IN PART OR MOST OF THE BODY. IT WAS COMMONLY BELIEVED AT THE TIME THAT DISABILITY MEANT YOU WERE GUILTY OF SERIOUS SIN OR CURSED BY GOD. THE PARALYTIC ALMOST CERTAINLY ENDURED FINANCIAL POVERTY, SOCIAL REJECTION, AND RELIGIOUS CONTEMPT.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES FROM THIS EPISODE:

LUKE: 5:12-14 - WHILE HE WAS IN ONE OF THE CITIES, THERE CAME A MAN FULL OF LEPROSY; AND WHEN HE SAW JESUS, HE FELL ON HIS FACE AND BESOUGHT HIM, "LORD, IF YOU WILL, YOU CAN MAKE ME CLEAN." 13 AND HE STRETCHED OUT HIS HAND, AND TOUCHED HIM, SAYING, "I WILL; BE CLEAN." AND IMMEDIATELY THE LEPROSY LEFT HIM. 14 AND HE CHARGED HIM TO TELL NO ONE; BUT "GO AND SHOW YOURSELF TO THE PRIEST, AND MAKE AN OFFERING FOR YOUR CLEANSING, AS MOSES COMMANDED, FOR A PROOF TO THE PEOPLE."

MARK 2: 1-12 - AND WHEN HE RETURNED TO CAPERNAUM AFTER SOME DAYS, IT WAS REPORTED THAT HE WAS AT HOME. 2 AND MANY WERE GATHERED TOGETHER, SO THAT THERE WAS NO LONGER ROOM FOR THEM, NOT EVEN ABOUT THE DOOR; AND HE WAS PREACHING THE WORD TO THEM. 3 AND THEY CAME, BRINGING TO HIM A PARALYTIC CARRIED BY FOUR MEN. 4 AND WHEN THEY COULD NOT GET NEAR HIM BECAUSE OF THE CROWD, THEY REMOVED THE ROOF ABOVE HIM; AND WHEN THEY HAD MADE AN OPENING, THEY LET DOWN THE PALLET ON WHICH THE PARALYTIC LAY. 5 AND WHEN JESUS SAW THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE PARALYTIC, "MY SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN." 6 NOW SOME OF THE SCRIBES WERE SITTING THERE, QUESTIONING IN THEIR HEARTS, 7 "WHY DOES THIS MAN SPEAK THUS? IT IS BLASPHEMY! WHO CAN FORGIVE SINS BUT GOD ALONE?" 8 AND IMMEDIATELY JESUS, PERCEIVING IN HIS SPIRIT THAT THEY THUS QUESTIONED WITHIN THEMSELVES, SAID TO THEM, "WHY DO YOU QUESTION THUS IN YOUR HEARTS? 9 WHICH IS EASIER, TO SAY TO THE PARALYTIC, 'YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN,' OR TO SAY, 'RISE, TAKE UP YOUR PALLET AND WALK'?" 10 BUT THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT THE SON OF MAN HAS AUTHORITY ON EARTH TO FORGIVE SINS"—HE SAID TO THE PARALYTIC— 11 "I SAY TO YOU, RISE, TAKE UP YOUR PALLET AND GO HOME." 12 AND HE ROSE, AND IMMEDIATELY TOOK UP THE PALLET AND WENT OUT BEFORE THEM ALL; SO THAT THEY WERE ALL AMAZED AND GLORIFIED GOD, SAYING, "WE NEVER SAW ANYTHING LIKE THIS!"

MATTHEW 6:1-8 - "BEWARE OF PRACTICING YOUR PIETY BEFORE MEN IN ORDER TO BE SEEN BY THEM; FOR THEN YOU WILL HAVE NO REWARD FROM YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN. 2 "THUS, WHEN YOU GIVE ALMS, SOUND NO TRUMPET BEFORE YOU, AS THE HYPOCRITES DO IN THE SYNAGOGUES AND IN THE STREETS, THAT THEY MAY BE PRAISED BY MEN. TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, THEY HAVE RECEIVED THEIR REWARD. 3 BUT WHEN YOU GIVE ALMS, DO NOT LET YOUR LEFT HAND KNOW WHAT YOUR RIGHT HAND IS DOING, 4 SO THAT YOUR ALMS MAY BE IN SECRET; AND YOUR FATHER WHO SEES IN SECRET WILL REWARD YOU. 5 "AND WHEN YOU PRAY, YOU MUST NOT BE LIKE THE HYPOCRITES; FOR THEY LOVE TO STAND AND PRAY IN THE SYNAGOGUES AND AT THE STREET CORNERS, THAT THEY MAY BE SEEN BY MEN. TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, THEY HAVE RECEIVED THEIR REWARD. 6 BUT WHEN YOU PRAY, GO INTO YOUR ROOM AND SHUT THE DOOR AND PRAY TO YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN SECRET; AND YOUR FATHER WHO SEES IN SECRET WILL REWARD YOU. 7 "AND IN PRAYING DO NOT HEAP UP EMPTY PHRASES AS THE GENTILES DO; FOR THEY THINK THAT THEY WILL BE HEARD FOR THEIR MANY WORDS. 8 DO NOT BE LIKE THEM, FOR YOUR FATHER KNOWS WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE YOU ASK HIM.