

The Chosen Season 3 Discussion Questions and Bible Study

Episode 2 – Two by Two

Summary

Episode 1 is focused on how Jesus' teachings lead to conviction, repentance, and reconciliation - that is to say, the inward impact of the Sermon on the Mount. This focus bleeds over into Episode 2 - particularly in the early scenes where Matthew and his parents reconcile with one another in response to Jesus' teaching. For the most part, however, Episode 2 begins to shift our focus from the inward impact of the Sermon on the Mount to its outward impact.

As Jesus' fame begins to spread, his followers will no longer be able to operate as a single unit. To meet the growing demand for Jesus' message and miracles, the disciples will need to split up into pairs and go out on mission. Now that they have received Jesus' core teachings, these Apostles ("sent ones") are granted the authority to represent Jesus and share his message and his healing power with people who haven't been able to meet him. And yet the impact of Jesus' growing fame and influence isn't completely positive. As pilgrims flock to Nazareth in search of healing, we see that the likelihood of friction between Jesus and Rome is increasing. Moreover, Jesus warns the Apostles that as they represent him across the land of Judea, they too will face opposition and rejection.

Bible Passage Basis

-John 12:6 This passage gives us insight into Judas' intentions from John's perspective

-Matthew 9:35-38 Some of the implied ministry prior to sending out the apostles

-Matthew 10:1-15 Sending out the twelve

Discussion Questions

1. What stuck out to you about today's episode? What connected with you personally?
2. Did you have any questions about what happened? Anything we need to clarify?
3. What was your favorite humorous moment from this episode?

4. Parent and child relationships can be tough. What information does this episode give us on handling relationships between parents and adult children? What do you think led Matthew's father to call him son again?
5. How does this episode set up the role of Judas?
6. Jesus responds to the growing impact of his ministry by sending the Apostles to go spread his message and perform miracles. Jesus pairs up the disciples to send out. What was the significance of each of the pairs? Do you think they would have chosen the same partner for themselves as Jesus did?
7. In sending out the disciples 2 by 2 Jesus gives them specific instructions. Review what these instructions were. Do those instructions apply to us today? What about to popular Christian speakers and preachers?
8. As Jesus commissioned the Apostles, many of them expressed questions and concerns. Let's try to list all the concerns and questions that we saw the disciples express, either during the meeting or in private. Whose reaction could you relate to the most?
9. How is Jesus' growing fame beginning to have a concrete impact on the town of Nazareth?
10. Although Gaius and Atticus were able to keep the tent city from creating too much friction, how do you think Quintus will respond if the fame and impact of Jesus continue to grow? Do you get the sense that Gaius and Atticus are shielding Jesus and his followers from Roman oppression?
11. The Zealots were a political movement in 1st-century Second Temple Judaism which sought to incite the people of Judea Province to rebel against the Roman Empire and expel it from the Holy Land by force of arms. What impact has Jesus had on the Zealots? How did we see them respond? Although Simon the Zealot was able to escape safely during this episode, how do you think the Zealots will respond if the teachings and impact of Jesus continue to grow?

12. Jesus asks the women to care for the pilgrims and finance the ministry. How will they be able to do this?

13. Many of the Apostles were nervous about the new task that Jesus had called them to do. At the end of the episode, how did Simon Peter encourage the others?

The prayer that the disciples recite is Psalm 3.

O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying of my soul, "There is no salvation for him in God." Selah

But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. I cried aloud to the Lord, and he answered me from his holy hill. Selah

I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the Lord sustained me. I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.

Arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked.

Salvation belongs to the Lord; your blessing be on your people! Selah

(Psalm 3:1-8)

- What is this psalm about? [Hint: the title of the psalm says: "a psalm of David when he fled from Absalom his son"]
- How did the experience of David in this psalm connect with what the Apostles were about to experience? Why do you think this psalm was encouraging for them?
- When have you found it encouraging to pray using the words of a psalm to calm your anxious fears? (Do you have a specific go-to Psalm you'd be willing to share?)
- What are some future situations you might face when this specific psalm might be encouraging?