

The Chosen Season 3

Discussion Questions and Bible Study

Episode 4 – Clean Part 1

Summary

This episode opens with a montage of the disciples traveling around Judea, preaching the gospel, healing the sick, exorcising demons, reasoning with people, and caring for those in need. For the rest of the episode, they grapple with the significance of the power and responsibility they've received. Simon Peter and Eden are struggling. Mary Magdalene and Tamar work through their differences as they figure out how to secure funds for ministry. The disciples also clash on how to raise money as well as how much they should understand before sharing about Jesus. A poisoned well in Capernaum is causing a public health crisis and Gaius and Peter discuss big and small problems at the well. We see Jairus' daughter get seriously ill. We meet a woman assigned the name of Veronica who has a bleeding condition and hear about the Old Testament laws regarding women's periods.

Bible Passages Basis

Leviticus 15 Old Testament Laws About Women's Bodies

Matthew 10

Mark 5: 21-43 Jesus Healing

Mark 6: 6-13 Jesus Sends Out the Disciples to Heal

Luke 10:17-24

Discussion Questions

1. What stuck out to you about the episode? What did you connect with the most?
2. Did you have any questions? Was anything unclear?
3. During the very first clip, when John and Thomas healed a blind girl, how would you describe their reaction? What did they feel in that moment? What do you think was going through their heads?
4. How do you imagine the disciples were perceived and welcomed?
5. What were some of the different ways that people responded to the Apostles throughout the opening montage? How do you think it felt to have people respond in these ways?
6. Zebedee was surprised at how quiet his sons, John and Big James were. Why you think they were quiet?
7. Later, during the conversation at Simon's home, Big James seems frustrated and says, "Jesus gave us power but no understanding." Why do you think he's frustrated?

8. At one point, Judas points out that Jesus hasn't given them power; he is simply working through them. Is this distinction significant? If so, why?
9. Philip warns John that the feeling of power could be dangerous. How so?
10. Simon is distracted throughout this conversation because he's having a fight with Eden. Why is Eden frustrated? What seem to be her core struggles right now?
11. How easy or difficult would it be to give up your home and privacy today?
12. Later, when Jesus arrives, Simon speaks to him brusquely. He also tells Gaius that he feels a little exasperated with Jesus. Why is Simon frustrated? What are his core struggles right now?
13. We saw disciples struggling in a variety of ways. Which of the disciples could you relate to the most? Why?
14. What were the politics about the water and how can we relate to that today? Are there things that you could do easily to ensure clean drinking water for others?
15. Why were so many leaders of the time struggling to reconcile what Jesus taught, particularly the message of peace?

When we are serving Christ, it can be an emotionally complicated experience. Sometimes, we see amazing miracles and it's very exciting. At other times, it's very discouraging. Sometimes, we're filled with all kinds of questions and we feel overwhelmed trying to process it all. At other times, we experience stillness and a calming sense of Jesus' presence. Sometimes, our return home from serving is a joyous occasion. At other times, we come back depleted, only to find conflict that we weren't prepared to deal with.

Today's episode doesn't offer us any easy answers or solutions. But it does offer us the encouraging reminder that we all have different experiences in the wake of serving God. We don't need to feel ashamed about feeling depleted - or feeling excited. Jesus can meet with us wherever we may be. Jesus meets his disciples in the midst of the exhaustion we are seeing many of them feeling and he can ultimately bring them rest. Hopefully we too can ultimately experience the rest that Jesus offers.

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30, ESV)