

Week 3 The Chosen

Episode 2: Shabbat

Episode Passages - Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; 31:14-17; Deuteronomy 5:12-14; 2 Samuel 18:4-15; Proverbs 31:10-31; Luke 14:1-11; John 1:45-46; John 9:1, 6-16

Opening Prayer

Lord, help us to know you, love you, and follow you. Open our hearts to the Gospel message. St. Matthias, *pray for us*. St. Charles, *pray for us*.

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 end. **Amen.**

Episode Summary

The Shabbat (Sabbath) is shown from different perspectives. We see that Jesus has performed a miracle that the other holy leaders cannot (Mary's Magdalene's redemption). We also get a little more background on the difficulties in being Jewish and living under Roman occupation. Matthew validates Simon's arrangement with Praeter Quintus, and Nicodemus investigates the miracle reported in the Red Quarter. We learn more about the characters who will follow the great rabbi from Nazareth, and we learn a little more of Jesus as well.

Key Characters & Vocabulary



Shabbat Dinner = *Shabbat* literally means "He rested" and signifies the day God rested from His work of creation. The traditional, and most popular, Shabbat dinner would take place on Friday night. It was a time to honor family and God. Candles would be blessed and lit right at sunset. The meal would begin with a blessing, the *Kiddush*, before guests enjoy the challah (a special braided bread) and wine, both of which would be blessed before the meal. The following meal would be a multi-course meal that would include a fish course as well as a meat stew or soup, a meat course, side dishes, and dessert.

Shabbat Shalom = A traditional Jewish greeting from Friday evening until

Saturday evening during the time of Shabbat. It means "Sabbath of peace" but also basically means, "good Sabbath."

Sanhedrin = Was the highest Jewish council (like our Supreme Court) and consisted of 70 men plus the High Priest. It was composed of both Sadducees and Pharisees. Nicodemus was a Pharisee but also served as a member of the Sanhedrin. Nicodemus was considered a leading Scriptural authority among the Pharisees and referred to as a "teacher of Israel." Since he was also a member of the Sanhedrin, he was high in the ranks of Pharisees.

Av Beit Din = The Av Beit Din was the chief justice, the second-highest member of the Sanhedrin, after the high priest. There were different ones appointed for different regions.

James and Thaddeus = We meet two more disciples of Jesus in this episode, at the Shabbat dinner at Mary's home. James and Thaddeus. These are two disciples about whom almost nothing is known – this James if not "James, the brother of John" (we'll meet him later). This James is presumably "James, the son of Alphaeus," although that is not clear in the episode. Thaddeus is mentioned in Mark 3 and Matthew 10, but he's replaced by "Judas, the son of James" in Luke's list of disciples – these are likely the same guy, called by a different name.

Read Exodus 20:8-11; 31:14-17

Watch Episode 2: Shabbat

Episode Questions

- What details were present in the video that amplified your understanding of Scripture?
- How was the Sabbath (Shabat) portrayed? What did you notice about the various Shabbat meals depicted in this episode?
- What do you think of the various women who have been introduced in these two episodes? How have they been portrayed so far, and what do they contribute to the story?

Personal Reflection

- The Hebrew Sabbath celebrates God's work and inspires soulful, restorative rest. How do you celebrate God's work in your life? How do you take time for restorative rest?

Closing Prayer

Thank you God for creating and redeeming us. We ask you to help us recognize the importance of healing rest for our bodies, minds, and souls. And help us to have open hearts and minds to outsiders or unexpected guests. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.