# The CHOSEN Study Guide

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phone/email.

# The CHOSEN

# **Grace Fellowship**



Fall 2023 Grace Fellowship Brooklyn Park, MN findgrace.com

This material has been adapted from The Chosen TV series. To learn more, visit <u>https://new.thechosen.tv/</u>

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# About this Series.

This series will follow Season 3 of The Chosen TV series. You will see the life of Jesus through the eyes of those that walked with him. We are excited to go through this series where we can grow, learn and discuss together.

Each week, we recommend the following routine to get the most out of this series.

# **1. WATCH THE EPISODES**

Binge Jesus! You can watch all the episodes for free. Watch online <u>Watch.TheChosen.TV</u> or get <u>The FREE Chosen App.</u> The series is also streaming on Amazon Prime, Netflix, & Peacock.

# 2. LISTEN TO THE MESSAGE

The worship services will be aligned to bring celebration and worship to the Lord. The messages will be biblically-based and include examples of practical ways to love, serve and share Jesus with others who do not have a relationship with Him (yet).

Sundays at 9 & 10:30. You can attend in-person or online. If you miss a week, or just want to watch it again, service videos are posted on the website. <u>www.findgrace.com/the-chosen-season-3</u>

Use the space provided each week to take notes.

Binge Jesus! Online



The Chosen App



Watch the service online

Live & Interactive



**On Demand** 



# **3. PERSONAL STUDY**

#### SCRIPTURE

Who God is and what He is saying to you is revealed in the Bible. Prepare for your weekly study time in the SCRIPTURE section by clearing away distractions. This will make a way for you to read, listen, understand, and respond to what God is teaching you. Make a plan to meet regulary (same time and same place) with The Lord.

As you read the scripture, spend time asking the Lord, "What does this mean?" "What do You want me to learn?" and "How do You want me to apply it to my life?" Do not rush through. Allow pauses for the Holy Spirit to teach you and guide you through scripture.

#### REFLECTION

Dig a little deeper. Questions that help you process your thoughts and beliefs.

#### PRAYER

Close your time with God in PRAYER. P+R+A+Y is a helpful pattern for prayer. You may also want to record your requests and answers to prayer in the space provided.

**P=PRAISE** Start by praising God. Tell Him who He is to you and what you are thankful for. This will get your heart in the right place as you connect with God. Psalm 100:1-5

**R=REPENT** Next, move into a short time of repentance. Admitting to God your faults and allowing Him to convict you of the things that are wrong in your life. This is the natural response of a sinner in the presence of a sinless God. Isaiah 6:1-5

**A=ASK** Prayer requests are what most people think of when they envision prayer, and that is the third step in this method. Paul teaches us that we should

confidently present our requests to God. Philippians 4:6-8

**Y=YIELD** The final step is yielding to God. Stop and quiet your heart to hear from God. This is probably the most difficult step in prayer, but it's worth the effort to make it a habit. Matthew 6:9-10

# 4. EXPERIENCE A SMALL GROUP

We learn and grow far more when we share with a caring and committed group of Christ followers. Your small group will provide you an opportunity to share what God is teaching you and how His Spirit is leading you through this series.

#### SHARING LIFE INCLUDES:

- Reading God's Word to connect the truth of God to the realities of every day life
- Christ-centered conversation marked by open and honest dialogue
- · Bearing one another's burdens and celebrating one another's joys
- Encouraging one another to consistently connect with Jesus.
- · Lots of fun, support, and care

#### **GROUP TIME INCLUDES:**

- Meet for 1.5-2 hours
- Connect with each other gather, check in, announcements (10-15 minutes)
- Share a time for all to share their thoughts about the message, episode or personal study time. (15-20 minutes)
- Discussion questions on how to embrace and apply the Chosen material (30-40 minutes)
- Care & Prayer Hear prayer requests and pray for one another

# Need a Bible?

Check out the YouVersion Bible! Available online or in your app store. It's Free!



We're so glad you've decided to go through the Chosen experience with your small group. We are better when we are learning and growing together.



# EPISODE ONE

#### Matthew 5:43-45

"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

# WATCH THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 1

#### THE BIG QUESTION:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? (What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?)

#### **BRING TO GROUP:**

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

#### CHARACTERS

Jesus, James & John, Andrew & Peter, Thomas, Rema, John the Baptist, Matthew and parents, Joanna, Joseph and Jairus

# LISTEN TO THE MESSAGE

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### **MESSAGE NOTES**

# PERSONAL STUDY TIME

| Matthew 5:21-24 |
|-----------------|
| Matthew 6:25-33 |
| Matthew 7:12    |
| Matthew 5:38-40 |
| Matthew 5:43-45 |
| Matthew 7:24-27 |
| Numbers 6:24-27 |

What are your big questions from this episode? What captured your imagination most? What would you ask God about the events portrayed?

Which characters stood out to you most? Describe why? Did you identify with them? What questions do you have regarding their responses/actions?

How do the stories seen in this episode remind us that Jesus is for us?

P+R+A+Y P.RAISE R.EPENT A.SK Y.IELD A space to record your personal & group time prayers

## **GROUP TIME**

- 1. We see and hear Jesus teaching the Sermon on the Mount. What parts stood out to you? Could you tell that the disciples were moved by Jesus' words? What proved they were moved?
- 2. Joanna gives a valuable piece of fabric to Jesus' ministry. She is deeply moved by the sermon as well. Later she takes Andrew to see John the Baptist. What did John mean when he told Andrew, "In all that he said to those 1000s of people, there was something just for you. There always is." How have you experienced that when reading the words of Jesus?
- 3. Joseph the Pharisee is recording what's happening in Capernaum. Who is Jairus and what does he recommend that Joseph do with what he's writing? Why? Why didn't Joseph seal his scroll before he gave it to Jairus for "the cellar?"
- 4. Andrew and Matthew each acted on what they heard from Jesus' sermon. What were the results of each? Why is forgiveness so powerful?

# EPISODE TWO

Psalm 3

Lord, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me! Many are saying of me, "God will not deliver him." But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. I call out to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy mountain.

# WATCH THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 2

#### THE BIG QUESTION:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? (What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?)

#### **BRING TO GROUP:**

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

#### CHARACTERS

Jesus and disciples, Rema, Mary Magdalene & Tamar, Quintus, Atticus & Gaius, Matthew's parents

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### **MESSAGE NOTES**

# PERSONAL STUDY TIME

| Matthew 5:23-24 |
|-----------------|
| Luke 9:1-6      |
| Matthew 10:5-14 |
| Matthew 10:28   |
| John 13:29      |
| Psalm 139:14    |
| Job 1:21        |
| Psalm 3         |

What are your big questions from this episode? What captured your imagination most? What would you ask God about the events portrayed?

Which characters stood out to you most? Describe why? Did you identify with them? What questions do you have regarding their responses/actions?

How do the stories seen in this episode remind us that Jesus is for us?

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## **GROUP TIME**

- 1. This episode featured Jesus sending His disciples out two by two. They had various reactions. What do you remember? How do you see yourself in some of their responses?
- 2. Simon Peter and Eden begin making plans for a family. Then the disciples are sent out, and they must wait. What does this say about how Jesus can interrupt our hopes and plans? How should we respond?
- 3. Jesus matched Matthew and Simon the Zealot up. Why was that significant? How can we grow in relationships with those we may struggle with?
- 4. Jesus' conversation with Little James was profound. What was Jesus' reason for not healing him? What can we learn about moments in our lives when Jesus doesn't do what we want Him to?
- 5. Simon the Zealot and Atticus have a rooftop conversation. Simon is concerned about how his past actions may impact his future ministry. How often does your past impact your feelings of being worthy for being used by God?
- 6. Peter demonstrates leadership as he gathered the disciples for prayer before they leave on their journeys. They prayed Psalm 3 from memory. What is the value of having scripture memorized during moments of important life decisions?

# **EPISODE** THREE

Luke 4:18-19

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

# WATCH THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 3

#### THE BIG QUESTION:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? (What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?)

#### **BRING TO GROUP:**

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

#### CHARACTERS

Jesus, Mary, Joseph, Rabbi Benjamin, Aaron, Raphim, Lazarus, Mary & Martha

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### **MESSAGE NOTES**

## PERSONAL STUDY TIME

| Isaiah 61:1-2              |
|----------------------------|
| Luke 4:16-30 Isaiah 61:1-2 |
| Luke 4:16-30               |
| Kings 17:8-16              |
| Kings 5:1-154              |
| Deuteronomy 18:20          |

What are your big questions from this episode? What captured your imagination most? What would you ask God about the events portrayed?

Which characters stood out to you most? Describe why? Did you identify with them? What questions do you have regarding their responses/actions?

How do the stories seen in this episode remind us that Jesus is for us?

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## **GROUP TIME**

- 1. This episode begins (and has flashbacks) with Jesus as a boy. Why is it helpful to remember that Jesus was raised by Mary and Joseph? What was meaningful to you about the portrayal of their relationships?
- 2. The episode documents Jesus' return to Narazeth as described in Luke 4:16-30. What did you think of the scenes of the "hometown boy" being famous?
- 3. What was significant about Jesus reading Isaiah 61:1-2 in the synagogue? What did Jesus claim after reading it? Why was what Jesus claimed so impossible for them to accept?
- 4. Rabbi Benjamin accused Jesus of being a false prophet and invoked Deuteronomy 18:20. How accurately was this portrayed from Luke 4? How did this scene of Jesus being condemned to death impact you?
- 5. How did you feel seeing the anger in Jesus' friends and the people of Nazareth's' faces? Have you ever gotten angry with Jesus? What is the root of our anger with Him?
- Jesus is shown going to a sealed tomb, which we learn is Joseph's. What is profound about that moment? (Remember that it is not recorded in scripture, but that the creativity displayed can teach us much). Think about:
  Jesus and His own tomb. 2) Jesus will later instruct people to roll away the stone from Lazarus' tomb. (John 11:39)
- 7. Jesus told Mary and Lazarus at the tomb, "There's no turning back now. Not after today." Are you willing to follow Jesus with that kind of resolve?

# EPISODE FOUR

Luke 8: 44-45 She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped. "Who touched me?" Jesus asked.

# WATCH THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 4

#### THE BIG QUESTION:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? (What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?)

#### **BRING TO GROUP:**

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

#### CHARACTERS

Jesus, Disciples, Eden & Simon, Tamar & Mary Magdalene, Gaius, Zebedee, Veronica, Jairus and family

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### **MESSAGE NOTES**

## PERSONAL STUDY TIME

| Matthew 6:9-13     |
|--------------------|
| Leviticus 13:45-46 |
| Leviticus 15:7-12  |
| Luke 8:40-56       |
| Luke 8:2-3         |
| Ephesians 4:15     |

What are your big questions from this episode? What captured your imagination most? What would you ask God about the events portrayed?

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## **GROUP TIME**

- 1. Joseph of Arimathea (Rabbi Joseph; see Mark 15:43) and Jairus admit their belief in Jesus to one another. Why was it dangerous for them? What did the Sanhedrin edict later declare? Why was it difficult for these Jewish religious leaders to acknowledge Jesus?
- 2. Ministry costs money. We see the need for financing. The women discuss how to help. (Luke 8:2-3) Why do our finances cause such stress? How can we learn to depend upon God's gracious provision? What must be sacrificed at times for ministry?
- 3. The disciples return from their mission. How did this portrayal of their surprise, delight, and confusion strike you? Why was James concerned about "more fuss and scrutiny?"
- 4. Andrew said he felt "powerful." He was told that feeling was "dangerous if that is the feeling we hold onto." How can our feelings in ministry distract or disrupt us?
- 5. Eden meets Veronica, and we learn that she has had a bleeding disease for 12 years. It's setting the stage for her encounter with Jesus. How did you feel seeing her back story portrayed? What did you learn?
- 6. Capernaum's main cistern has been damaged and must be fixed. When something we depend on "breaks," we feel powerless. What has left you feeling powerless or at your wit's end lately?

# EPISODE FIVE

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

# WATCH THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 5

#### THE BIG QUESTION:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? (What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?)

#### **BRING TO GROUP:**

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

#### CHARACTERS

Jesus, Eden, Simon, Gaius, Veronica, Joseph, Jairus and family

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# **MESSAGE NOTES**

# PERSONAL STUDY TIME

Matthew 9:14-26

Matthew 6:16

Jeremiah 2:13

What are your big questions from this episode? What captured your imagination most? What would you ask God about the events portrayed?

Which characters stood out to you most? Describe why? Did you identify with them? What questions do you have regarding their responses/actions?

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# **GROUP TIME**

- 1. What is the reason that Zebedee sold his boat? Why did he feel free to do so? What did he want to use the olive grove to do? Is it hard or easy for you to give or release something in order to bless the work of Jesus? Why?
- 2. Simon and Gaius are working to fix the water supply. They talk about religion. What does Jeremiah 2:13 mean, and how might it apply to what we do in our own lives?
- 3. Jesus is asked about fasting. He said, "When you fasted before, what did you pray for?" They responded, "Your arrival." Jesus said, "Exactly." What did He mean? Did it help your understanding to see the wineskin verse demonstrated?
- 4. Jairus comes to get Jesus. On the way to heal his daughter, Jesus is jostled by the crowd, and Veronica is healed. What did Jesus say healed her? Why is faith so deeply important to Jesus? How did you feel when Jesus thanked her (and later Jairus) for their faith. Can you imagine Jesus looking into your eyes and thanking you for trusting in Him? (Read Hebrews 11:6)
- 5. Why did Jesus instruct Jairus and his family, and His three disciples to not tell anyone about the miracle?
- 6. What holds you back today from completely trusting in and placing your faith in Jesus? What might you need to do so?
- 7. The tension between Simon and Eden continues. What do you now suspect is the reason? As the episode ends, Eden is watching the disciples play in the water. How does it make you feel when you see others celebrating when you yourself cannot?

# EPISODE SIX

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

# WATCH THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 6

#### THE BIG QUESTION:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? (What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?)

#### **BRING TO GROUP:**

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

#### CHARACTERS

Jesus, Gaius, Atticus, Pilate & wife, Mary Magdalene & Tamar, Pharisee, Simon the Zealot & Zealots, Barnaby & Shula, Disciples, Peter & Eden

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# **MESSAGE NOTES**

# PERSONAL STUDY TIME

Matthew 27:17-19

- John 1:29
- Matthew 9:23-24
- Matthew 15:31
- Luke 7:18-35

What are your big questions from this episode? What captured your imagination most? What would you ask God about the events portrayed?

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# **GROUP TIME**

- The episode opens with Pilate's wife having a dream about Jesus in Gethsemane. Were you aware that she tried to dissuade Pilate from judging Jesus? What did you think of the portrayal of Pilate and the pressure upon him to keep the peace?
- 2. Quintus orders Gaius to get rid of the tent city. Why was he concerned about it? Why do you think this episode portrayed Gauis the way it did? Are you sometimes surprised at people who express interest in Jesus, and why?
- 3. Andrew and Phillip are told that they "ruined everything" with their preaching back in the Decapolis. How so? How can our clear communication about Jesus cause unrest and conflict in some and hope and wonder in others?
- 4. Tamar and Mary share a powerful moment. What did you learn about each woman and her past? Why is it so difficult to heal from past trauma or shame? How does faith in Jesus heal and give hope?
- 5. The disciples of John the Baptist come and question Jesus. Why was John seemingly disappointed? What was the message of Jesus to take back to him? What can we learn from this message when we are disappointed with Jesus' apparent neglect of our needs even as He meets the needs of others?
- 6. What did you think of the way Jesus handled the Pharisee accusing Him of blasphemy?
- 7. Why was the quiet, private miracles of Shula and Barnaby's healing so moving and significant? What about their attitude do you want to emulate in your own faith walk?

# EPISODE SEVEN

Isaiah 43:19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

# WATCH THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 7

#### THE BIG QUESTION:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? (What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?)

#### **BRING TO GROUP:**

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

#### CHARACTERS

Jesus, Gaius, Atticus, Mary Magdalene, Tamar, Pharisee, Disciples, Leander, Deaf man, Decapolis crowd

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# **MESSAGE NOTES**

# PERSONAL STUDY TIME

| Luke 14.15-24 |
|---------------|
| Isaiah 43:19  |

- 🗌 Isaiah 42:1-4
- Matthew 1:1-17
- 🗌 Mark 7:31-37

What are your big questions from this episode? What captured your imagination most? What would you ask God about the events portrayed?

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# **GROUP TIME**

- 1. The Decapolis is in "full-scale meltdown" because Andrew and Philip had preached there. What parable did they tell? Why did it turn the region upside down and cause riots?
- 2. How can we learn to speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15) and also be more shrewd in our communication of the gospel to others? What happens when we're not wise in our communication?
- 3. We see a flashback that explains why Matthew has prayer tassels hidden in a box. What is the storyline here, and what does it mean when he ties them to his garment? What visible display of your faith in God might you need to make? What practical thing reminds yourself of your faith in Jesus?
- 4. Mary Magdalene told Matthew, "Sometimes God sends a dove." What did she mean? Has God ever sent you a "dove?" How did you realize that?
- 5. Simon discovers that Gaius has a sick servant boy who is really his son by a slave woman. How does that explain his interest in Jesus? How can we be sensitive to people's interest in Jesus when they're experiencing trials or hardships?
- 6. In this episode, Peter breaks down and tells John about Eden losing the baby. How does John (who had been frustrated to have to wait on Simon) pivot and begin to minister to Simon? How can we also learn to die to ourselves and see others' need?
- 7. Close your group by thinking about someone you know that is disappointed with Jesus. (It could be you!) How can a hard heart prevent healing? Pray for others/ one another to have soft hearts and to allow Jesus to speak and heal disappointment.

# EPISODE EIGHT

Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

# WATCH THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3 - EPISODE 8

#### THE BIG QUESTION:

What is your one BIG question from this episode? (What captured your imagination most, and what would you ask God about the events portrayed?)

#### **BRING TO GROUP:**

What quote from this episode was the most meaningful/impactful to you? Why?

#### CHARACTERS

Jesus, Disciples, Eden, Zebedee & Salome, Mary Magdalene, Rabbi Shmuel, Rabbi Joseph, Leander, Decapolis crowd, Lame man, King David & Bathsheba, Asaph

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# **MESSAGE NOTES**

# PERSONAL STUDY TIME

| Psalm 77                        | Matt 21:28-32    |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Luke 17:5-6, Matthew 17:20      | Matt 13:44-46    |
| 🗌 Jeremiah 6:16, Isaiah 43:18-1 | Luke 9:12-17     |
| Matt 13:1-9                     | Luke 13:18-19    |
| Luke 10:21-22                   | Matthew 14:22-34 |
| Matt 11:28-30                   | 🗌 Psalm 13:2     |

What are your big questions from this episode? What captured your imagination most? What would you ask God about the events portrayed?

Which characters stood out to you most? Describe why? Did you identify with them? What questions do you have regarding their responses/actions?

How do the stories seen in this episode remind us that Jesus is for us?

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# **GROUP TIME**

- 1. Psalm 77 has a central role in this episode, beginning and ending it with King David. How does this Psalm apply to the episode overall, and specifically how is it used in Simon and Eden's situation?
- 2. In this episode, Jesus does damage control in the Decapolis from Andrew and Philip's mission there. What was significant about how Jesus dealt with conflict? What did you notice about how He was portrayed as assuming authority as moderator?
- 3. Zebedee, Salome, and Mary Magdalene minister to Eden. What is at the root of her and Simon's struggles? How does disappointment with God cloud your own perspective at times?
- 4. Jesus' miracle of feeding the 5000 is shown. What did the disciples learn? What lessons did you learn from watching it?
- 5. The Pharisees traveled to the Decapolis to "catch" Jesus teaching heresy. They seem more concerned about prayer tassels and Jews associating with Gentiles than understanding who Jesus really was. How can we miss the big picture of what God is doing around us when we focus on control?
- Rabbi Joseph (of Arimathea) ministers to Eden through scripture (Psalm 77). Why does using scripture provide substance in hard times? What role does scripture have in your life - in re-centering you, providing correction, hope, encouragement, comfort, etc.
- 7. Jesus invites Peter to walk on water. How did this moment impact you? How can Jesus' power amidst our lack of faith (and in storms) restore your own soul?

# The CHOSEN

The Chosen is a groundbreaking historical drama based on the life of Jesus, seen through the eyes of those who knew Him. Set against the backdrop of Jewish oppression in first century Israel, the seven season show shares an authentic and intimate look at Jesus's revolutionary life and teachings.

-www.comeandseefoundation.org

