

The CHOSEN

Episode Study Guides | **EPISODE 2**

WAIT – IS THAT IN THE BIBLE?

Were the disciples as young as Matthew looks?

The best insight we have into their age is from Matthew 17:24-27, where only Jesus and Peter among the disciples pay the temple tax required of those age 20 and older. This leads many to think the others were younger than 20.

Did the Jews save a seat for Elijah during the Passover?

Yes, traditionally Jews do this during Passover (not every Sabbath) to honor the expectation that Elijah would come again to prepare the way for Messiah (Malachi 4:5). Jesus indicates in Matthew 11:14, however, that John the Baptist fulfilled this expectation, at least in part.

Did Peter really betray the other fishermen?

There is no record of this in Scripture, but it is not an unfair development of Peter's character given what we observe of his behavior in the gospels.

Did Matthew approach Rome with concern about Peter?

There is no record of this, although Matthew could have been acquainted with Peter and Andrew in Galilee.

Is the wife of Nicodemus in Scripture?

She is not mentioned in the gospels at all, but her character in The Chosen does help to demonstrate the contrast there could have been between Nicodemus and others in his circle.

Key Bible Verse

Come to me, all you 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

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 What is one question you have about the Bible, Jesus, or other characters as a result of watching this episode?
- 2 What do you think of how several Sabbath dinners were highlighted at the end? What is the significance of Jesus attending Mary's dinner instead of the dinner with Nicodemus?
- 3 Read Matthew 11:28-30 and think about how Nicodemus asks, "who is suppressing our worship now?" How can religious obligation threaten true worship?
- 4 Read Mark 2:23-28. What do you observe about Jesus' teaching on the Sabbath?
- 5 Mary says, "I was one way, and now I am completely different. And the thing that happened in between was Him." Do you have a similar story about Jesus? Share it!
- 6 What do we learn from Jesus about how to see and serve those who are hurting and broken in our world?
- 7 What else did you learn about Jesus from this episode? Are there any ways in which your impression or understanding of Jesus was sharpened, challenged, or changed?



Adapted from Forcey Bible Church