Previous episode recap

Last episode, we witnessed Jesus meeting secretly with Nicodemous at night, revealing His Kingdom plans, and eventually inviting him to "Follow me". We also witnessed Jesus inviting Matthew to "Follow me" and Matthew's eagerness to follow!

Episode 8 intro

Today's episode begins with a story about Jacob in the Old Testament. God called Abraham (Jacob's grandfather) to leave his home and follow Him. God promised to make Abraham "the Father of a Great Nation". About 200 years later we find Jacob and his sons digging a well in Canaan. It is implied this is the same well Jesus had an important conversation with a Samaritan women at the end of this episode.

Below is a scripture that will help introduce today's episode. The bold/underlined portion is very important to today's lesson as it is the moment Jesus revealed himself as the Messiah.

John 4:25-26

25 The [Samaritan] woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

26 Jesus saith unto her, **I that speak unto thee am he**.

A few key words/phrases that will help you understand this episode are below. Note: depending on your groups understanding of the Bible, some of these words/topics may not need to be discussed.

Jews and Samaritans hatred: in short, the hatred between the Jewish people and Samaritans dates back 1,000 years before Jesus. Both groups are direct ancestors from Abraham and once part of the same nation of Israel. Their many disagreements, battles, divisions between the Jews and Samaritans are described in the O.T. Jews called the Samaritans "half-breeds" or "dogs" because the Samarians had mix-married with the Jewish people's enemies. The Samaritans and the Jewish people hated each other. Many would not look at, talk to, or purposefully avoid crossing paths with the other race.

Watch Season 1 – Episode 7

Suggested Questions (choose 2-3 questions to discuss)

A. Near the beginning of this episode, Jesus and his disciples are eating together at Matthew's house.

a. What are the reasons that the Pharisees found it wrong for Jesus to be eating with some of the guests?

b. In this scene, Jesus says the words recorded in Luke 5 (below). What does this scene and scripture mean to you?

Luke 5:31-32 Jesus answered and said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

B. In the painful scene as Nicodemus makes the decision to not follow Jesus, what do you think Nicodemus was weighing out in his mind as he made his choice?

C. Following Jesus will cause changes in your life and will be especially evident in your relationships. Nicodemus, Matthew, and Simon all encountered challenges in choosing to follow Jesus. Do any of their stories resonate with you?

D. Has there ever been a time in your life where you were as excited about Jesus as the woman at the well was? How can you bring back some of that excitement?

Announcements

- Next Wednesday (March 15th) at 7pm we will have fellowship at Elim and a discussion led by Pastor Steve and Asst Pastor Tim about The Chosen Season 1. We want you all to attend! Bring a snack or dessert to pass!
- Stay tuned for our future Small Group schedule as we will be resuming mid-week services at Elim for a few weeks.
- Starting Wed, May 3rd we will start The Chosen Season 2 in a small group format! We can't wait!