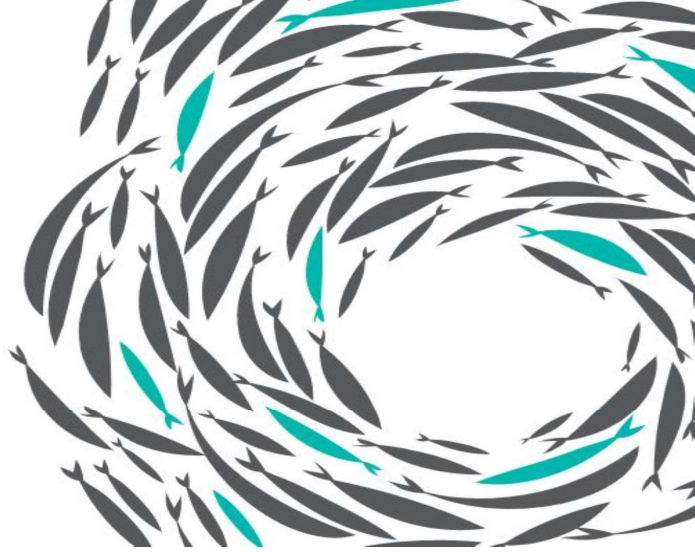


The CHOSEN

Viewing Guide

For listening, discussion & reflection

EPISODE 2: Shabbat



EPISODE 2

Scriptural References

- Exodus 20:8-11
- Exodus 31:14-17
- Proverbs 31:10-31
- Luke 14:1, 7-11
- John 1:45-46
- John 9:1, 6-12

Characters

Quintus, Gaius, Nicodemus, Matthew, Mary Magdalene, Peter and Andrew, James and John

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?)

Watching Notes

- Which characters stood out to you most? Which were most interesting? Most moving?
- How do you feel about the development of Peter's character? And Andrew's role?

Quotes

Mary Magdalene: *"I don't understand it myself. I was one way and now I'm completely different. And the thing that happened in between - was Him. So yes, I will know him for the rest of my life!"*

Things to Note

Shabbat is the way Jews say "Sabbath". For Jews this is from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday. Shabbat begins with the Sabbath meal on Friday evening in Jewish homes. No work is to be done on the Sabbath.

Discussion and Learning

We meet two 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 is 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 movie. 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.

Do you think the directors intended to include a nod to Judas Iscariot as they portrayed Simon leaving his home quickly after Shabbat dinner? Why or why not?

What did you notice about the various (as many as six, if you can find them) different Shabbat meals that we saw depicted in this episode?

How did the directors work in some of the biblical stories that we read earlier, transporting the ideas found there into a new location or setting?

Were there other allusions that you noticed?

Much of what we see in this episode is a continuation of Episode #1, fleshing out backstories before the series will surge ahead. What have you appreciated about the backstories as they continue to flesh out in the movie? Is there anything you'd change, given what you've seen so far?

How did Jesus appear to you? Like you thought? Different?

What will you take home with you and ponder further?