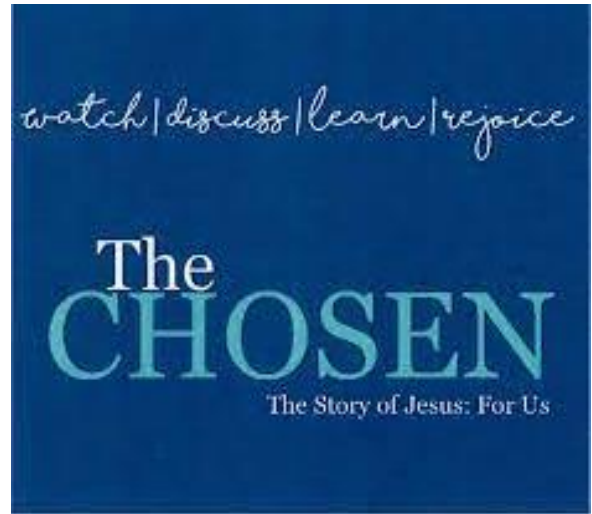


Group Guide

Episode 8: Beyond Mountains

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:10



EPISODE 8

SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

- Psalm 139:13-16
- Matthew 5:1-16
- Matthew 7:12

CHARACTERS

Jesus and disciples; Salesmen: Judas
Pharisees: Rabbi Shammai, Shmuel, Yanni
Romans: Atticus, Gaius; Others: Tamar,
Ramah, Mary, Mary (Jesus’ mother), Eden

The Big Question: The Pharisees continue to plot against Jesus. Rabbi Shammai’s summation of the charges so far against Jesus are:

- Self identifies using a divine title;
- Claims authority to forgive sin;
- Violates Sabbath and teaches others same;
- Eats with tax collectors and sinners.

What do you think about the attitude of the Pharisees about Jesus? How are they right? How are they wrong?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Thank you Lord for giving me purpose in this life and an example to follow that does not require my perfect performance. Amen.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The episode begins two salesmen negotiating a deal for land. What did you think when one of them turned out to be Judas? What do you see in his character so far?
2. What were your thoughts when Judas said, “I want a life I can be proud of – that will be remembered throughout history.”
3. How did you feel about Jesus taking Matthew with him to help prepare the sermon? Did it help you have a new perspective of the Sermon on the Mount? Of Matthew? How?
4. How did it hit you when Jesus spoke the Beatitudes and you saw scenes from His disciples for each one? Which one might He speak to you today?
5. What do you think it means to be “salt of the earth”?

QUOTE:

“If someone wants to find me, those are the groups (of people) they should look for.”

~Jesus