

The Chosen

Season 2; Episode 1 - Thunder (1:05:45)



O Holy Spirit, help me to recognize You in the Scriptures and in the Chosen Episodes, which are based upon your inspired Word. Open my mind to accept in faith Your truths, even before I am granted right understanding.

Scripture References:

Luke 15:3-7 What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy and, upon his arrival home, calls together his friends and neighbors, and says to them, ' Rejoice with me, because I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

Luke 29b-33 "And how is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man fell victim to robbers as he went down to Jerusalem from Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. ..."

Genesis 1:1-3 In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth - and the earth was without form or shape, with darkness over the abyss and a mighty wind sweeping over the waters - Then God said:Let there be light, and there was light.

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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Things to ponder:

1. James and John were particularly cynical and confrontational toward the Samaritans. "Who is my neighbor?" This question resonates today. Are there people of other races, religions, genders, social classes, etc. that we have trouble treating as 'neighbor'? How might their life change, if we treated them like the 'Good Samaritan'?
2. Photina (Woman at the Well - S1/E8) has apparently told 'everyone' about Jesus; just as she said she would. She was putting into practice what is our baptismal call to be 'priest, prophet and king'. Our ears are blest, to hear the Word of God; and our mouth is blest, to proclaim the Word, the Good News. Some proclaim by their preaching; some proclaim by their actions, by how they live their life. How do we proclaim Jesus?
3. In the beginning of the episode John was interviewing the apostles and other first hand witnesses of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. As Mother Mary observed 'the world itself could not contain all that could be written'. So how to tell the Jesus story? Why did John or the other evangelists pick what they did to pass on to us? How would you be guided to tell the story?

What about you?

- A. James and John were trying to plan out Jesus' schedule, his ministry. Aren't we often guilty of essentially the same thing? How often do we pray about a situation telling Jesus how to 'fix' it? Maybe we catch ourselves and add "but, not as I will it... may your will be done".
- B. Everyone seems to have a lost sheep, someone (a friend, a child or grandchild) who has lost their way. We truly would rejoice that they were found and have their life turned around. How do we help them? How do we encouragingly bring them back to the fold? Sure, maybe we ask Jesus to take care of it. But, do we ask Jesus what He wants us to do? (maybe it's a lot; maybe it's nothing)
- C. When we joined the apostles in the Samaritan town of Sychar, they lost Jesus. Later when He was going for his morning walk, they asked where He was going so they could meet Him after his walk. Remember His response? We sometimes ask, "Where is Jesus when I need Him?" It's probably the same answer.