



SEASON TWO

Catholic
Commentary
On *The*
CHOSEN

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Catholic Commentary on The Chosen helps Catholics engage with the immensely popular TV series depicting the life of Christ.

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EPISODE 1:
THUNDER



In the premiere of Season 2 of *Catholic Commentary on The Chosen*, Dr. Michael Barber and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger explore “Thunder,” the first episode of Season 2 of *The Chosen*. In this discussion, they comment on how the series navigates the different Gospel accounts, the composition of the Gospels, and the relationship between John and Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How does the episode’s depiction of the composition of the Gospel of John influence the way you read it? Does it add to or detract from your interpretation of his Gospel?
- Mary comments on the way John loves to talk about how Jesus loved him. Do you see yourself as beloved by the Lord? Talk with Jesus about what arises in response to this question.
- Jesus calls John and James the “Sons of Thunder”. The Chosen grounds this title in their zeal for righteousness. How can you imitate their zeal for the Gospel in your own life?



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EPISODE 2:
I SAW YOU



Join Dr. Barber and Dr. Hefelfinger as they explore the second episode of Season 2 of *The Chosen*: “I Saw You”. In this episode, they discuss Nathanael, Philip, and the way our pasts shape the way we follow Christ.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Read the call of Nathanael (John 1:43-51). What stands out to you? Bring this response to the Lord in your prayer time.
- In *The Chosen*'s portrayal of the call of Nathanael, Jesus was present in Nathanael's toughest moment. Have you experienced his presence in your trials? Ask him to show you where he was.
- Nathanael meets Jesus because of Philip. Who brought you to Christ? Who are you called to introduce to Jesus?



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EPISODE 3:

MATTHEW 4:24



Dr. Barber and Dr. Hefelfinger discuss Episode 3 of *The Chosen* Season 2: “Matthew 4:24”. They highlight its depiction of Mary, recommend Scripture verses to pray with, and comment on the portrayal of Christ’s humanity.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- In Acts 1:14, Scripture states Mary the Mother of Jesus was praying with the apostles. Ponder Mary’s familiarity with the disciples and imagine yourself with them. What can you share with Mary in prayer to foster your relationship with her?
- Pray with Luke 2:24 and Leviticus 12:8. Have you pondered the poverty of the Holy Family? What is one way the Holy Spirit invites you to live a simpler life?
- Pray with Romans 12:2. Our culture often belittles truth or downplays the mind’s importance, but the head and the heart are not meant to compete. How can you enable these two to work together?
- Are you ever tempted to follow Jesus not because of who he is but what he does for you? Ask the Lord to purify your intentions.



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EPISODE 4:
THE PERFECT
OPPORTUNITY



Join Dr. Barber and Dr. Hefelfinger as they unpack the Catholic and scriptural roots of “The Perfect Opportunity,” highlighting how *The Chosen* brings biblical events to life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Pondering the “thatched roof” example from this episode (how it blocks the sun but allows rain through), how can you depend more intentionally on God and his providence?
- Nathanael points out to Thomas how similar Thomas and Matthew are. How can you better love those you most easily judge? Does the judgment reflect something about yourself that you dislike?
- What is one area where you struggle to hope? Do you believe Christ is the solution?



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EPISODE 5:
SPIRIT



Join Dr. Barber and Dr. Hefelfinger as they unpack the Catholic and scriptural roots of Season 2 Episode 5, "Spirit", highlighting how *The Chosen* brings John 5 to life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why is John the Baptist referred to as the new Elijah? Refer to Malachi 4:5-6.
- "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30). How does this episode's depiction of John the Baptist align with his humble deference to Jesus in the Gospels? In what ways does the portrayal fall short?
- In his providence, God transforms our weaknesses and sins for his greater purpose. How does Mary Magdalene's interaction with the man possessed by demons demonstrate this truth?
- Do you believe the Word of God is an efficacious sword? How can you increase your time and resources to promote the Word of God over the noise of this world?



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EPISODE 6:
UNLAWFUL



Join Dr. Barber and Dr. Hefelfinger as they unpack the Catholic and scriptural roots of “Unlawful,” highlighting the ways *The Chosen* brings biblical events to life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Can you relate to Mary Magdalene’s struggle to feel worthy of God’s love?
- What does it mean for God to work with us and through us?
- Do the struggles of discipleship ever catch you off guard or surprise you? How do you respond?



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EPISODE 7:
RECKONING



Join Dr. Barber and Dr. Hefelfinger as they unpack the Catholic and scriptural roots of “Reckoning,” highlighting the ways *The Chosen* brings biblical events to life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- How can the Sermon on the Mount serve as a central guiding principle or “magna carta” for your moral life?
- Do you agree with the producers that the depiction of the Sermon on the Mount was the most controversial moment of the show? Why or why not?



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EPISODE 8:
BEYOND
MOUNTAINS



Join Dr. Barber and Dr. Hefelfinger as they unpack the Catholic and scriptural roots of “Beyond Mountains,” highlighting the ways *The Chosen* brings biblical events to life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- In this episode, why do the producers depict Jesus asking Mary to share her thoughts, even though Jesus already knows them? How can this reality be true in our prayer life as well?
- Have you experienced a religious service that felt more like a concert than an occasion of true worship? How did you respond?



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