

The Chosen

Season 1, Episode 3: Jesus Loves the Little Children

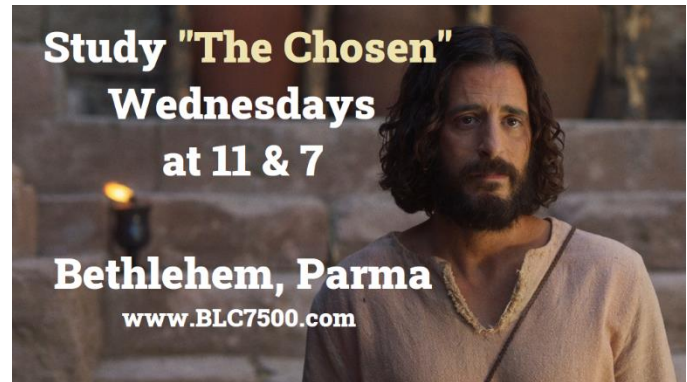
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Notes:

- See the footnote for the study resources.¹
- See the episode 1 handout for some important background information on some of the main characters.

Video Summary:

1. **Jesus camps on the outskirts of Capernaum, 26 AD.** Capernaum is where Jesus' ministry began. After He was baptized (Mt. 3:13-17), He was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil (Mt. 4:1-11), and then: "...leaving Nazareth, He came and settled in Capernaum, which is by the sea..." (Matt. 4:13 NAU).
2. **A local girl named Abigail** (Reina Ozbay) **discovers the location and plays with the craftsman's tools while he is away.** Not a Biblical account, but this episode will help us understand Jesus' love for children and their importance in His sight.



Watch the Video: Season 1, Episode 3: **Jesus Love the Little Children** (31 Minutes)

3. **She invites her friend Joshua** (Noah Cottrell) **to come see Jesus for himself.** Even though Abigail has not yet met Jesus, she is curious and invites her friend Joshua. Since we know Jesus, let us invite our friends to meet Him in the Bible and then know Him as Savior and Lord.
4. **Jesus soon befriends Abigail and Joshua, as well as the friends they invite in the following days.** Jesus knows every heart; He also knows that children generally have a pure faith – *a childlike faith*; in other words, they believe what they are told – *because they are told*, even if they cannot understand. ^{NAU} **Mark 10:13-16** *And they were bringing children to Him so that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, "Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. "Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it at all."* And He took them in His arms and *began* blessing them, laying His hands on them.
5. **The children help Jesus on his work.** God made people to work; even before the fall into sin, the LORD put Adam to work: ^{NAU} **Genesis 2:15** *Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.*
6. **Jesus teaches them about love, prayer, justice, compassion, faith, and wisdom.**
 - a. Love: ^{NAS} **Mark 12:30-31** *"...you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

¹ Sources: The Holy Bible; Book: What Does It Mean to Be Chosen? Jenkins & Huffman; this website: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Chosen_\(TV_series\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Chosen_(TV_series))

- b. Prayer: ^{NAS} **John 16:24** “Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be made full.”
 - c. Justice: ^{NAS} **Romans 12:19** “...it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.”
 - d. Compassion: ^{NAU} **Matthew 5:7** “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.”
 - e. Faith: ^{NAS} **Hebrews 11:1** “...faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”
 - f. Wisdom: ^{NAU} **Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; Fools despise wisdom and instruction.
7. **When he is asked the reason why he is here, Jesus reveals himself as Messiah, reciting the words of the prophet Isaiah.** ^{NAU} **Isaiah 61:1** The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners...
8. **After Jesus moves camp, Abigail discovers he left a gift for her.** As Jesus treasured those children and taught them the Scriptures, *let us do the same with anyone who will listen.*

Noteworthy Quotes:

- “When it comes to God’s love, it’s not about our age, our appearance, our abilities, or anything else we may or may not bring to the table. It’s about what already is. We are precious to our Maker” (58).
- “God loves His chosen people the way good parents love their children. Good parents do anything, endure anything, sacrifice anything to care for their own” (59).
- “...in the first century AD, a person’s contribution heavily weighted their value, and young children couldn’t contribute much” (61).
- “...it’s likely Nicodemus felt pride over his heritage, accomplishments, and stature rather than feeling cherished by God for who he was” (61).
- “By pursuing the promise of wealth, Matthew willingly gave up any sense of being cherished for who he was” (62).
- “[Jesus] accepted [the children who came to Him], not because of who they were or what they could do, but because of who He is and what He does” (62).

Questions:

1. What quality do children have that we should seek? _____
2. From episode 1, think about Mary, Nicodemus, Matthew, and Peter; what do all four of those people have in common? _____
3. How should we respond to the fact that Jesus cherishes us enough to give Himself as the ransom for our sins and restore our relationship with God? _____

Next Class, Episode 4: **The Rock on Which It Is Built**

- Next Wednesday, May 18
- **11 am and 7 pm**
- Gather at 10:30 and 6:30 for fellowship
- If you desire, bring a snack to share