

## The Chosen - Season 1, Ep. 2: 'Shabbat' - Discussion & Study

1. What impacted you the most in this episode, and why?
2. What does the Bible say about Sabbath & its importance? How does the idea of Sabbath speak to you? Can you think of times in your life when you really needed to experience a Sabbath?
3. The celebration of Sabbath by the Jewish people was one of the traditions that bound them together as a community of believers. And the theme of shifting family is prevalent; Matthew estranged from his father, Eden struggling with Peter, Mary Magdalene not having a family, the questioning of Nicodemus about what it means to be bound together as the family of the Jews by rites and traditions.  
**Questions:** What does this episode say about the importance of family? Who do you consider your family & why? What do you long for in a family? How does Jesus & His family fit that longing? Can you think of things that you do as a believer that binds you together with the family of Christ?
4. Nicodemus sought fulfillment in his Jewish religion, but his religion didn't satisfy him. Matthew sought fulfillment in wealth, but ended up lonely. What are things you have sought fulfillment in that have proven empty?
5. When Mary explains to Nicodemus what happened to her, she said, "He called me by my name, "Mary," and he said, 'I am His.'"  
**Questions:** What does it mean that Jesus calls you by your true identity and pronounces that you belong to him (Isaiah 43:1). What is it like to come into that truth? What does it say about what God wants from you?
6. Mary said to Nicodemus: "Here is the one thing I can tell you. I was one way and now I am completely different. And the thing that happened to me in-between was Him. So yes, I will know Him the rest of my life." How does that speak to you? What does it say about real life transformation?
7. Jesus joins Mary's Sabbath dinner at the end. Think about what his presence would have felt like. When you think of Jesus being a part of your family and sitting at the table with you, do you have similar warm feelings? Why or why not?
8. What was the significance of the empty chair that Jesus sat on at the Sabbath dinner @ Mary's house? How does it relate to the Sabbath & the Passover?
9. Jesus went to the Shabbat dinner with ones who were considered outcast, the lame and the blind. What are your thoughts on this? Jesus defers to Mary's leading of the Sabbath readings in her home. How does it make you feel that Jesus honors your own honest efforts at prayer and spirituality?