

## The Chosen - Season 1, Ep. 4: 'The Rock On Which It Is Built' - Discussion & Study

1. What impacted you the most in this episode and why? Peter owes a debt he could not pay. He says to his wife, "I am in big trouble... I could go to prison. We could lose our house... I need to fix this somehow." And He tries all night with no success. Have you experienced the frustration and burnout from working in your own strength to fix your problems? What were the circumstances?
2. When Peter is finally honest with his wife about his enormous debt, her response is one of faith. Comment on this quote: "God is with me even if you aren't... Where is your faith? Gambling, working, trying to do everything by yourself. Fishing on holy days with no respect to God... You have not pursued the Lord. THAT is why you are stuck and desperate, and now you are off to try to fix it again. Maybe God can get your attention now."
3. Psalm 127:1-2, The Passion Translation, says: If God's grace doesn't help the builders, they will labor in vain to build a house. If God's mercy doesn't protect the city, all the sentries will circle it in vain. It really is senseless to work so hard from early morning till late at night, toiling to make a living for fear of not having enough. God can provide for His devoted lovers even while they sleep! How does this verse apply to this episode? To your life?
4. What happened after Peter finally gave up? Have you ever experienced a miracle in a time of desperation? Can you share it with the group?
5. After the miraculous catch of fish, Peter told Jesus he was sinful and was sorry for his past actions. Jesus said, "LIFT UP YOUR HEAD, FISHERMAN." What did He mean and why is that a powerful word for us?
6. When Peter asked Jesus, "What do you want from me?" Jesus' response was, "Follow me." What does "follow me" mean to you? Interpretive note – One of the major themes of this episode is the debt that could not be paid. We cannot get out of our sin debt by our own clever scheming and working. Even the Pharisees, who kept the Law of God zealously, are called snakes by John the Baptist. Righteousness can only ever be a gift. How does this speak to the teaching that Jesus gave on the shore, when he says, "Many different kinds of fish will be gathered. The angels of God will separate the evil from the righteous." Read the parable Matthew 13:47-49, and answer the question, "Who can possibly be the righteous (just) before the Lord?"