



The Chosen

Season 2, Episode 6

Unlawful

Flashback to Nob, Israel, 1008 BC where (King) David visits Ahimelech, after fleeing from Saul, to ask for food while Ahimelech and his son prepared the shewbread for the temple in Jerusalem. Ahimelech gives him five loaves although it was against temple law. Then, shifting back to Jericho in AD 26, Simon and Matthew search for Mary Magdalene and find her in an alley. She is ashamed for leaving the camp to return to her old life, but they convince her to return to the camp where Jesus forgives her. The disciples receive news of John the Baptizer's arrest by King Herod. After Thomas informs Jesus that they are out of food, the group goes to a nearby synagogue on Shabbat where Jesus heals a man with a withered hand upsetting the Pharisees, Madai and Lamech; and as the group leaves, Jesus permits his hungry disciples to eat and pluck grain. The Pharisees criticize them for doing this on Shabbat, and Jesus references David and the shewbread as he declares himself the Son of Man and Lord of the Sabbath.

Characters – Season 2, Episode 6

Jesus, Mary Magdalene, Rehman, David, Abiathar, Matthew, Simon, Pharisees (Schmuel and Yanni), Elam (man with the withered hand)

Discussion Questions

1. So much is happening in this episode: Matthew and Simon search for Mary Magdalene; Mary's restoration; arrest of John the Baptist; Pharisees plotting; healing on Shabbat. Which of these subplots seems most powerful to you?
2. What do you think about Jesus' decision to send Matthew and Simon together to find Mary Magdalene? Were you surprised at how they related to each other and with Mary after they found her. Did it change your feelings about either Matthew or Simon?
3. Hearing of John the Baptizer's arrest and knowing that it likely meant he would die was difficult for Jesus and the disciples, especially Andrew who had followed him before Jesus arrived. They were worried and angry even though Jesus had told him that he was doing the right thing. Have you ever had to watch someone in your life face serious and severe consequences, fair or unfair? How did you feel and how did you manage those feelings? Did you involve God or did you turn your back on Him?
4. Why do you think Jesus led the disciples to the synagogue after Thomas told him that they were out of food? How do you feel about Jesus healing the man in the synagogue and then allowing his disciples to eat the grain on Shabbat, thus breaking Jewish law? Were you surprised? What do you believe was his motive for this?

Scriptures and Texts

- Psalm 121; I Lift Up My Eyes - comfort for all. In this case for Mary?
- Matthew 12: 9-14 Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?
- Mark 2: 27-28 The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. This is a huge thread so far in this series. And will be part of what gets Jesus killed.

What Comes Next

Season 2, Episode 7

"Reckoning"

Quintus orders Jesus' arrest and questions him. Shmuel and Yanni seek to find Tamar. Andrew and Philip find Tamar in Jotapata and receive an unexpected warning about Shmuel's plans. The disciples ask Jesus how to pray, and he teaches them a now-very-familiar prayer.