

S1 EP. 6

Indescribable
Compassion



GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

The
CHOSEN
Connect

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WHY CHOSEN CONNECT?

This guide is designed to help your group go beyond simply watching *The Chosen*. It invites them to reflect on the deeper meaning behind the series and explore the same source that inspired its creators—the Bible. As God’s Word, the Bible offers encouragement, wisdom, and direction for our lives today.

As you facilitate the discussions, pray for these outcomes in the lives of participants:

1. Pray that participants will recognise how the Lord is calling them to respond to the biblical stories and truths portrayed in *The Chosen*.
2. Pray that participants will develop a deeper connection with Christ as they encounter him in his Word and among fellow believers.
3. Pray that participants will have an increased desire to read and study Scripture on their own.

S1 EP. 6 INDESCRIBABLE COMPASSION



This discussion guide also includes a reading plan to help you personally apply the lessons from *The Chosen*. You can go through it on your own or with your group, allowing for deeper reflection and ongoing conversation. Enjoy the journey!

HOW TO USE THIS MATERIAL

Each episode of *The Chosen* explores many meaningful themes, and it's impossible to cover everything in one discussion. That's why this group discussion guide offers multiple approaches, allowing you to choose the one that best fits your group.

This guide includes four different tracks, each focusing on a unique perspective from the episode. To prepare, we recommend watching the episode on your own first. Then, review the four options and prayerfully select the track that will be most relevant for your group.

Each track begins by inviting *initial reflections* on the episode. Then, it helps the group dig in by reading and discussing Scripture. Finally, it ends by encouraging you to consider how the Lord may be calling you to respond.

Choose what you want to work on and follow the icon of your choice.



Track 1:

I want to deepen my faith



Track 2:

I want to learn to live my faith with others



Track 3:

I want to better understand what Jesus meant



Track 4:

I want to give hands and feet to my faith



Season 1 episode 6

TRACK 1: I WANT TO DEEPEN MY FAITH

Called. He is the only one who knows who I will become

Initial reflections

In this episode, Simon wrestles with not understanding why Jesus chose to call him and the others. Was it because of the skills they had to offer? Simon wants an answer—he wants to know what he is supposed to be doing. But Little James shares a different perspective, saying, *“I don’t know if anything is clear... He (Jesus) is the only one who knows who I will become. More than anything, he is a teacher, and we are his students”* [08:32-09:48 min].

- Do you relate more to Simon or Little James in this scene? Why?
- Why do you think Simon is so preoccupied with figuring out why Jesus called him?
- Do you have a sense of calling in your life? Tell us about it. Where does it come from?

Dig in

To understand your calling and live out your purpose, it helps to start at the very beginning—how God designed you.

Let’s read Genesis 1:26-28, 31 together.

- What does this passage reveal about how God created you?
- What does it say about why God created you?
- Re-read verse 28. In it, God blesses humans before giving them a command. What is significant about this ordering?
- How do people live out their purpose as image-bearers of God?



Respond

God has given each of us unique gifts and talents to fulfil his purpose. There are things only you can do because he created you uniquely. The next generation may never know your name, but if you faithfully live out your God-given calling, they will feel the impact of your life—and through that, they will give glory to God.

- Only Jesus knows who you will become. Does this idea reassure you or challenge you? Why?
- What steps can you take to discover and start walking in your calling?
- What gifts and talents has God given you? How can you offer them to Jesus in this season of your life?



Season 1 episode 6

TRACK 2: I WANT TO LEARN TO LIVE MY FAITH WITH OTHERS

Your faith is beautiful...

Initial reflections

In this episode, Simon offers to stay behind to protect the other disciples as Jesus takes his mother back to Nazareth. But instead of accepting Simon's offer, Jesus sends him home ahead of the group, saying, *"You have some business to tend to at home ... The others don't have families, but you do"* [09:54-10:22 min].

- What do you think about Jesus' response to Simon?
- What do they reveal about how Jesus values family?
- Have you ever been in Simon's position: wanting to serve Jesus in one way, but called by Jesus to serve him in another way? What did you learn from it?

Dig in

Let's read Luke 5:17-26.

This paralysed man has such amazing friends! They don't have the power to heal him, but they do what they can—they bring him to Jesus.

- What details stand out to you in this passage? Why?
- When Jesus saw the friends' faith, he forgave the paralysed man's sins. What can we learn from these friends?
- What does this story reveal about Jesus?
- How can you be a friend like the friends in this story?



Respond

One of the paralysed man's friends in the episode is an Egyptian woman. She does everything she can to bring him to Jesus. When Jesus sees her, he says, "*Your faith is beautiful*" [43:04-43:45 min].

- Are there people in your life whose faith inspires you? What about their example do you find inspiring?
- Think of one person whose faith has especially impacted you. How can you thank them this week? (e.g. sending a card, flowers, etc.) What do you want to say to them?



Season 1 episode 6

TRACK 3: I WANT TO BETTER UNDERSTAND WHAT JESUS MEANT

Just be you!

Initial reflections

In this episode, Simon is eager to take action—he wants to protect Jesus and care for the other disciples. But John reminds him that Jesus called him to catch men, not to be a bodyguard. Simon, feeling uncertain, responds, “*I don’t know what that means.*” John encourages him to trust and wait for further instructions, simply saying, “*Just be you*” [28:18-29:14 min].

- Can you relate to Simon—eager to act but unsure of what Jesus is calling you to do?
- How do you feel about having to wait for instructions or clarity?
- What can you do while you are waiting?

Dig in

While Simon focuses on protecting Jesus, Shmuel and Nicodemus wrestle with the question of who Jesus is. Shmuel is convinced that Jesus cannot be the Son of God, declaring, “God cannot take human form” [29:20–31:08 min]. But Nicodemus gently suggests that Shmuel is trying to put God into a box of his own making.

The truth is, we all share Shmuel’s tendency. Our imaginations are too small to comprehend God’s greatness. But while humans aren’t able to make adequate images of God, God gave us one perfect, living image by which we can know him.

Let’s read Colossians 1:15-23.

- What does this passage tell us about Jesus?
- Re-read verse 15. What does this mean when we reflect on Jesus’ life on earth—his actions, character and mission?
- Have you ever caught yourself trying to put God into a box? How has your understanding of him grown as you’ve followed Jesus?
- Now reflect on your own life: Are you open to God working in ways that don’t match your expectations?



Respond

It's natural to be like Simon in this episode: eager to take action. But sometimes, Jesus simply calls us to wait and pay attention. Following him means embracing what he wants to do *today*—even if it's unexpected or outside our comfort zone...

- Nicodemus encouraged Shmuel to *“... look to the ancient roads where the good way is and walk in it, as Jeremiah said, and still keep your eyes open to the startling and the unexpected”* [32:20 -32:33 min]. What would this look like in practice?
- When you find yourself in a season of waiting, how can you wait well?
- What helps you to wait with expectation rather than distraction or frustration?
- John reminded Simon to *“Just be you”*. How can this reminder encourage you today?



Season 1 episode 6

TRACK 4: I WANT TO GIVE HANDS AND FEET TO MY FAITH

Please! Do not turn away from me!

Initial reflections

In this episode, Jesus and his disciples encounter a leper—a man who has been completely rejected by society. Desperate, he pleads, *“Please ... Please, don’t turn away from me!”* Instead of avoiding him like everyone else, Jesus reaches out to touch and heal him [16:17-18:25 min].

- How did you feel watching this scene?
- Research shows that physical touch is essential—It causes our brain to release chemicals that foster happiness and connection. How has physical affection, or the lack of it, shaped your life and relationships?
- Who are considered the “outcasts” or “untouchables” in our day and age? How can followers of Jesus reach out to them?

Dig in

Jesus was willing to touch the untouchable, stepping into the leper’s space to meet him in his deepest need. He gave the man what he could never find on his own—healing, restoration and a renewed sense of dignity and belonging.

Let’s read Matthew 8:1-4.

- What does this interaction reveal about Jesus and his heart for others?
- Can you think of other stories in Scripture where Jesus showed his compassion? What do you learn from these moments?
- What was the testimony or message that Jesus wanted the healed man to take to the priest?
- Have you ever been moved with compassion for someone who was rejected by others? What happened, and how did you respond?

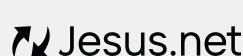


Respond

Jesus touched those whom society rejected, abandoned and forgot. He still does today, and he calls us to do the same. Touching peoples' lives in this way begins with understanding their needs—asking questions, listening and educating ourselves about their experiences. But it cannot stop there. Understanding must lead us to action. Compassion is love in action.

- Have you ever experienced Jesus' healing touch through one of his followers? What happened?
- How can we grow in compassion?
- How do you seek to understand the needs of those you serve?
- Think of someone you know who may be feeling rejected or abandoned. How can you reach out to them in the next week?

The CHOSEN Connect



The Chosen Connect materials have been created by Alongsiders, OneHope, Jesus.net, and Living Image.

Chosen Connect's heart is to make disciples and walk alongside others as they follow Jesus.



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Find more at jesus.net/home.

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