

# THE CHOSEN

## Season One | Episode One

In Episode One, we are quickly submerged into the world of first-century Israel under Roman occupation. Familiar names from scripture start to surface as we are methodically introduced to an initial group of soon-to-be disciples who find themselves struggling between opposing forces of power and taxation—from the oppressive Roman government to the burdensome moral laws of their religious leaders. Here we meet Simon (Peter), his brother Andrew, Mary Magdalene, Matthew the tax collector, and others including the well respected “teacher of teachers” Nicodemus from John chapter 3.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1** Were there any details about the depiction of 1st century Israel, historical context and culture, or Roman oppression that stood out to you in Episode One?
- 2** Both Matthew and Mary (and even Nicodemus) were trapped in social structures whether by choice or by circumstance. Do you think the way we view systems of power affects our ability to see hurting people?
- 3** With Mary, we see the hope that can come from holding fast to scripture. Are there any scriptures throughout your life that have been anchor points for you?
- 4** When Jesus purposefully steps into the fray—and the final frame of this episode—His deeply personal intervention brings healing and freedom. Has there ever been a moment in your life that has been unmistakably marked by Christ?