

Group Discussion Guide

Season 1 Episode 2

Shabbat



THE
BIBLE
ARTIST

Big Questions

- What is the Sabbath?
- How does the Sabbath point to Jesus?
- What does it look like to practice Sabbath like a Pharisee?
- What does it look like to practice Sabbath the way God intended?

The CHOSEN

Before Viewing Season 1 Episode 2

What is the Sabbath?

Since the beginning, the practice of resting or taking a Sabbath (or "Shabbat") once a week has been a central spiritual discipline for God's people. Unfortunately, many Christians today view the practice of Sabbath as a form of legalism or works righteousness.

Watch the [Sabbath Theme Video](#) from the Bible Project

Discuss:

- When you hear the word Sabbath or Shabbat, what come to your mind?
- Do you mostly have positive or negative associations with Sabbath?
- What was God's purpose for creating the Sabbath and other festivals?
- How did the Sabbath point forward to Jesus?

After Viewing The Chosen Season 1 Episode 2

Initial Impressions

Discuss:

- What stuck out to you about the show? What could you connect with personally?
- Did you have any questions about what happened? Was anything confusing for you?

After Viewing The Chosen S1 Ep. 2 (continued)

3 Shabbats

Discuss

- Of the three different Shabbat meals depicted in Episode 2, which one do you think you would prefer to attend?
- What did Eden's Shabbat mean to her?
- What did Mary's Shabbat mean to her?
- What did the Shabbat of Nicodemus and the Pharisees mean to them?
- What are some of the other differences you noticed between the Shabbat of Mary and the Shabbat of the Pharisees?
- Why do you think Jesus chose to attend the Shabbat of Mary?

The Purpose of Sabbath (Shabbat)

Mary's Shabbat and the Shabbat of Nicodemus and the Pharisees embody two very different visions of Sabbath/Shabbat. Jesus highlights the differences between these two distinct visions of Sabbath elsewhere in his teaching.

Read Luke 14:1-24

Discuss:

- What does Jesus dislike about the way that the Pharisees practice Sabbath (Shabbat)?
- What does Jesus say Sabbath feasts are supposed to be about?
- Why is it that Jesus-style Sabbath feasts are filled with the outcasts of society? What keeps the wealthy and prosperous from enjoying Jesus-style Sabbath?
- What would it look like for you to engage in Sabbath (Shabbat) the way Jesus and his disciples did? Who would be invited? Why might it be difficult?

Conclusion

Discuss:

- What's your biggest takeaway?
- What questions do you still have?