

Group Discussion Guide

Season 1 Episode 1

I Have Called You by Name

Big Questions

- What is *The Chosen*?
- Why does it make other changes to the Bible?
- What is it like to encounter Jesus?
- What can we learn from Mary Magdalene's encounter with Jesus?



THE
BIBLE
ARTIST

The
CHOSEN

Before Viewing Season 1 Episode 1

What is *The Chosen*?

The Chosen is a multi-season streaming series that's adapting the four Gospels. Many characters and stories are based on events in the Gospels, but there are also characters and events that the creators made up to tie things together. There are also characters and stories from the Gospels that the creators have left out.

Discuss:

- What are some other popular adaptations of books into film or television?
- In these adaptations, can you think of some characters or stories that were added by the film? Why do you think the creators added them?
- Can you think of characters or stories that the film left out? Why do you think they were removed?

After Viewing Season 1 Episode 1

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?

After Viewing Season I Episode I (*continued*)

Mary Magdalene's Encounter with Jesus

Discuss:

- What did you notice about how the show portrayed Mary Magdalene (Lilith)?
- Did the depiction of Mary match your expectations? Why or why not?
- How did Mary's encounter with Jesus change her life?
- Have you or someone you know ever experienced a major life change as a result of encountering Jesus? What happened?

"I Have Called You by Name"

Read Isaiah 43:1-3

Discuss:

- In this passage, who is it that says "I have called you by name, you are mine"?
- In *The Chosen*, who quotes this verse to Mary?
- What is *The Chosen* suggesting about the identity of the person who quotes this verse?
- When have you needed a reminder that you belong to God?

Jesus said to her, "Mary."

Read John 20:1-18

Discuss:

- After his resurrection, what helps Mary recognize Jesus?
- Do you see any similarities or parallels between the first encounter between Mary and Jesus in *The Chosen* and the encounter between them after the resurrection?
- Why would *The Chosen* want to connect these two encounters? What does it mean?

Conclusion

Discuss:

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