THE WEDDING GIFT

THE CHOSEN – SEASON 1 EPISODE 5 • **TIPS:** Start with initial thoughts about the episode. Feel free to spend more than one discussion on any episode as necessary. **NOTES:** Episode time markers and additional content are shown in **BLUE CAPS**.
Please be mindful that episode content is dramatized and at times not directly biblical.

WITH MY FATHER 0:10–2:45

Episode 5 is where we first meet Jesus' mother, Mary. **Read Luke 2:41-52 together.** Compare the biblical text with the dramatic portrayal at the beginning of this episode.

- How would you describe Mary's relationship with Jesus at this point?
- What do you think of Joseph?
- Compare this scene with the wedding scenes. What stood out to you about Jesus' interactions with His mother?

PREPARE & WITNESS WHOLE EPISODE

We get to know John the Baptist more through his conversations with Nicodemus while he's in prison. **Read Isaiah 40:3-5 and Luke 3:1-17.**

- What is John's purpose? Why do you think he's in prison?
- What are Nicodemus' impressions of John the Baptist? **Read Proverbs 30:4** and answer the questions that Nicodemus couldn't.
- Even in his search for truth, Nicodemus remained resistant to it. What are some factors that cause people to resist? How are they overcome?

If John the Baptist's task is to prepare for Jesus, the disciples' task is to bear witness. Think about the disciples' conversations and interactions with Jesus throughout the episode.

- What are they expecting from Jesus?
- Discuss their back stories of when Jesus called them. How are they witnesses even now? What do they know about Jesus that they could share with others?
- Once we know Him, do we have a responsibility to be a witness? If so, how? If not, why not?

THE WEDDING WHOLE EPISODE

Read John 2:1-12.

- What are the differences between the episode and the biblical text?
- The disciples were talking about stone masonry as Jesus was turning the water to wine and these words overlaid Jesus' actions: *"Once you make the first cut in the stone it can't be undone. It sets in motion a series of choices..."* What do you think this scene is trying to portray? Do you agree with this portrayal?
- Why would Jesus be hesitant perform a miracle?
- Describe Thomas' personality.

Watch the ROUNDTABLE.

- What are your thoughts on or experiences with doubt?
- How can doubt be positive?
- What is dangerous about skepticism?
- What does Jesus think about Thomas' doubt over the wine?

Discuss the interaction between Jesus and the disciples at the wedding. Have you ever thought of the disciples dancing? What thoughts did these scenes inspire?

EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, Who brings forth the fruit of the vine. These words were uttered each time a new glass of wine was poured by those about to drink it.

- What do you think this phrase expresses?
- What effect could adding this expression of praise before you eat or drink have on your connection with God throughout the day?