Episode Passages – Mark 2:13-17; John 4:1-42

Study 8

Conversation Starter

Who is has been your favorite character in the episodes so far? How come?

Episode Questions

- 1. When you are faced with interacting with someone who you see as "really broken" like the woman at the well, is your instinct to engage with that person or to distance from that person? Do you have hope for their potential or stay skeptical for their life change?
- 2. Jesus gave the Pharisees a homework exercise: "Go learn what this means. God desires mercy more than sacrifice." (Hosea 6:6; Matthew 9:13) What does that mean to you and how you follow Jesus today?
- 3. In the episode, Jesus explains He asked Simon to make sacrifices in order to follow Jesus. What sacrifices have you made to follow Jesus? Are making sacrifices to follow Jesus as difficult in reality as they are in our minds?
- 4. On their journey through Samaria, the disciples were questioning Jesus every time something did not go as they expected. Do you wrestle in your faith to trust God and not doubt Him on everything in your life that doesn't go as expected? Explain.

Personal Next Steps

- Renew and Refresh This week read Mark 2:13-17; John 4:1-42
- Self-Check
 - Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law freeing him to journey with Jesus. What would you like Jesus to "heal" in your life to free you to follow Him closer?
 - The Samaritan woman was elated to interact with the Messiah. What are ways you can stir excitement in your interactions with Jesus?
- Continuing the Conversation Nicodemus was very close to embarking on his spiritual journey with Jesus and His followers but couldn't quite go. Who could you encourage to take their next step of faith?
- Pray Thank Jesus for His "no strings attached" help and compassion on you as His follower.

