

The Chosen ---Study #1 LCR, Marion

Omar—Why can't you sleep?

Mary -- I'm scared.

Omar – Of what?

Mary – I don't know.

Omar – What do we do when we are scared?

Mary – We say, the words.

Omar – Adonai's words. From the prophet...

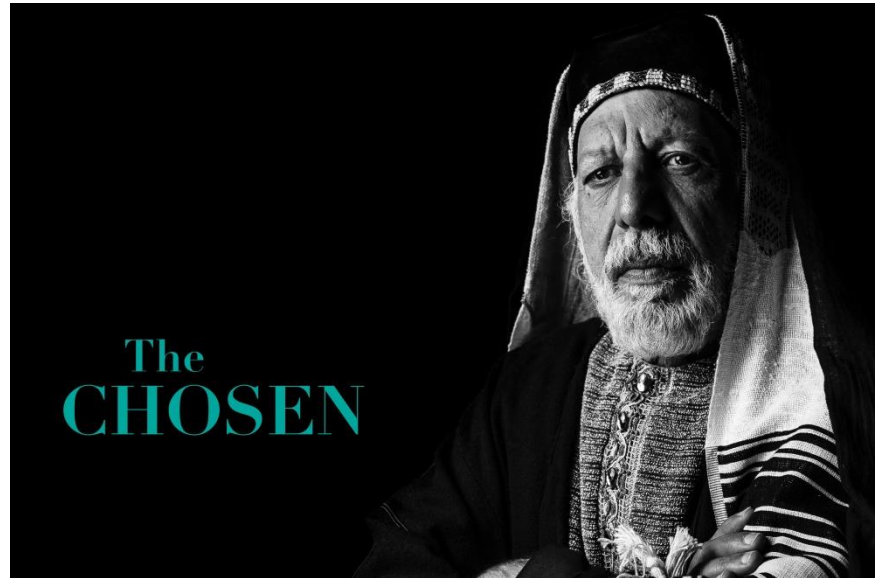
Mary – Isaiah.

Omar – From the prophet Isaiah, right. “Thus says the

Lord who created you, O Jacob, and who formed you, O Israel: Fear not “ I want to hear you say it. I want to hear your pretty voice/

Mary – “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.”

Omar – “You are Mine.” That's right.



*But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine. Isaiah 43.1*

We've begun a journey through the life of Jesus; and the eyes from which we are going to look at the story are the eyes of those whom he encountered. Remember, much of the back stories that are portrayed are not supported by what we know from scripture; but they do remind us that these people were a lot like us. They had problems, demons, families, aspirations and fears. And they were confronted with choices and challenges about life. This is the point, these ordinary folks, a lot like us, will be changed by Jesus.

- Of the five major characters that we were introduced to through “The Chosen” whom do you most identify with?



Matthew – the tax collector

Mary Magdalene (Lilith is her alias at first)—who is tormented

Peter – who is trying to navigate the system

Andrew –Peter’s brother who has family issues

Nicodemus – the Pharisee who is trying to do the right thing, but has questions and burdens to carry.

- What made the scene where Jesus calls Mary by name so powerful?
- How did the portrayal of Nicodemus surprise you? Do you think he is a good example in the movie of what a religious/faith leader should be? Why or why not?
- In Isaiah 40.26 we are told that not only has God created the stars but calls them all by name. Likewise, in Isaiah 43.1 (the verse we began with) God promises to be with the people and because of this they need not fear as God also knows them by name, This intimacy of the relationship that God has for us (and with creation) is an important part of this section of Isaiah. Have you ever had a moment when you realized that God has called you by name? What difference does it make that God’s desire is for you to know that you are chosen and known by name? How do you think such a realization would be reflected in a person’s life? (1 Thessalonians 1.4; John 15.16).

