

Introduction - "Shabbat" means rest. The Third commandment decrees a rest, to **cease** from work (Exodus 20:8-11). So, the Sabbath was and is a day of communal observance of rest. It is a God-designed day on which God gathers His people together to bless them. It is primarily marked by abstinence from physical work-though that's not at all what it's all about.

God built in a day of rest into His system because 1) He's intimately in tune with the spiritual needs of our souls and 2) He's gracious to His physical creation. We need a day off to hit the reset button, to attend to our faith, to spend time with God's Word and God's people whom we love–because of course we do. Physical rest hardly compares with God's primary intention behind His commandment. Why and how do we struggle with *rest* in our world today?

**Main Characters** - For each main character write things you learn about them: their past, current situation, struggles, personality.

Scenes and questions to consider after watching the episode. Then you can use the Episode 2 uide is the Group Discussion.







**Nicodemus** 

Simon





#### Other characters

- Andrew
- James
- John

- Gaius
  - · Quintus
  - · Jesus

| Mary      | Matthew |
|-----------|---------|
| Nicodemus | Simon   |
| Andrew    | Gaius   |
| James     | Quintus |
| John      | Jesus   |

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### I. Introduction to Shabbat

### II. Lilith (Mary from Magdala) possessed

- III. Matthew meets Quintus
  - 1. Why does Quintus find Matthew interesting?
  - 2. Why do you think Matthew acts this way?

# IV. Simon and Andrew

- V. Nicodemus and Lilith (Mary)
- 3. What words does Nicodemus use to attempt the exorcism?
- VI. Preparing for Shabbat

# VII. Matthew's background

4. Throughout this episode (and from the last one) make note of what Matthew does a nd doesn't have in life.

#### VIII. Nicodemus meets Mary freed

5. Take special note of this conversation between Nicodemus and Mary. What words do you find to have special meaning?

6. What has changed for Mary?

7. What has changed for Nicodemus?

# IX. Celebrating Shabbat

- 8. Compare the different Shabbats that you see.
- 9. What is interesting about where Jesus celebrates the Shabbat?