



Is That In The Bible?

Sermon Notes

The
CHOSEN

Title

- Faith When Life Is Murky

Points:

- Muscle Confusion
- Unorthodox Methods
- Readiness
- Kingdom
- You'll Know More Later

Introduction

If you've ever struggled to know God's will, or wondered how to make a decision when following Him feels confusing, or if He's put something on your heart and you don't know why—you're going to love what you find in God's Word today.

Title: *Faith When Life Is Murky*

Hello, welcome to church.

We're on the set of *The Chosen*—the first multi-season series about the life of Christ and the highest crowdfunded TV or film project of all time—to ask: **Is That in the Bible?**

Today we begin with a scene from the **first episode of Season 5.**

(Play Clip)

Screen to Scripture

The **Triumphal Entry**, which we just saw, is in **all four Gospels**.

Let's read from John's perspective: **John 12:12–16**

Big Idea

Choose compliance over clarity.

Sermon in a sentence: *Trust your Master, not your master plan.*

The Moment

- The bridle from Exodus? Used by David? Handed down to Joseph and Mary?
- -> No biblical record, but the Triumphal Entry itself is accurate: donkey, palm branches, hosanna, garments, rebuke from enemies.
- Josephus (not in the Bible but historical tradition): **2.7 million people** in Jerusalem for the feast.
- Jesus, after avoiding public coronation multiple times, finally **allows** a royal parade.

A different kind of King with a different kind of Kingdom.

And the disciples?

They were part of it—**without a clue what was going on.**

John 12:16 — *They did not understand these things at first...*

When Life Is Murky

They obeyed without understanding.

Let's jump to:

Matthew 21:1–3

Jesus sends two disciples to find a donkey.

“The Lord has need of them.”

Season 4, Episode 8: Humble

Matthew and Simon Z question the errand: *“You want us to borrow a burrow?”*

(The Chosen uses Matthew and Simon Z, the scripture doesn't specify which 2)

Stealing livestock made no sense—yet they did it.

Big Idea: Your job is not to understand God, but to obey Him.

The disciples didn't understand the cross either:

Matthew 16:22–23

Peter rebukes Jesus -> *“Get behind me, Satan!”*

Lean not on your own understanding.

5 Reminders for Murky Seasons

1. Muscle Confusion

Like a good trainer, God introduces instability to grow your faith.

James 1:3 — *The testing of your faith produces patience.*

Jesus healed in different ways—**no formula.**

C. S. Lewis: You can't enter Narnia the same way twice.

Don't trust the system. Trust the **Savior.**

If your spiritual life feels disoriented—God might be growing you.

2. Unorthodox Methods

Isaiah 55:8 — *My thoughts are not your thoughts...*

God works in surprising ways:

- Burning bush (Moses)
- Old man becomes a nation (Abraham)
- Jericho's walls (marching/yelling)
- Elijah's soaked sacrifice
- Jesus through a virgin
- John baptizing Jesus
- Water into wine
- Five loaves and two fish

Personal example:

- Felt called to plant a church with national/global reach
- *Didn't make sense with a call to Montana* — now it does.
- Favorite example: **Naaman** in 2 Kings 5
- Murky Jordan water -> Seven dips -> Healing

It's not about the object of faith—it's the **opportunity** for faith.

He stacks the deck against Himself so He gets the glory.

1 Corinthians 1:26–27 — *God chooses the foolish and weak to shame the wise and strong.*

3. Readiness

The donkey was **ready**—tied up and waiting.

Don't plow your field to the corners—leave room to say yes to God.

Why was Mary chosen?

She made herself **available**.

Your “donkey” might be margin in finances, time, or emotional space.

God's work in one season prepares you for the next.

4. Kingdom

This must be your focus.

The disciples argued about who was the greatest.

"He must increase, I must decrease."

Jesus modeled:

- **Servant mentality**
- Riding a **donkey**, not a warhorse
- **Majesty in meekness**
- **Strength in weakness**

5. You'll Know More Later

Obedience now leads to revelation later.

Trust in the Lord... and He will make your path straight.

Eventually the disciples had their minds blown—They realized they had played a part in prophecy.

Zechariah 9:9, Psalm 118:25

2 Corinthians 5:7 — *We walk by faith, not by sight.*

The Result

John 12:19–22

The Pharisees said: *"Look, the world has gone after Him!"*

Greeks asked Philip: *"Sir, we wish to see Jesus."*

People were **drawn** to Jesus because He was a **different kind of King** with a **different kind of Kingdom**.

They'll be drawn to **us** when we follow in His footsteps.

Recap

- Muscle Confusion
- Unorthodox Methods
- Readiness
- Kingdom
- You'll Know More Later

Trust God even when it's murky.

Don't demand clarity—**offer compliance.**

Here I am, Lord. Send me.

Obedience > Understanding

Make your mind up this year:

- Choose the Spirit
- Choose faith
- Choose readiness

James 1:5 — *If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God...*

Closing + Communion

One more murky detail:

Luke 22 — Upper Room

Peter and John told to follow a **man carrying a pitcher** (unusual—typically women's job)

Not in the Kingdom of God.

God is **still looking for servants.**

We need to have the **mind of Christ**, seeing through a **supernatural lens.**

**Is That In
The Bible?**

x

**The
CHOSEN**

To help us remember the cross, we end with a final clip:

(Play Clip)

No lamb on the table—**the Lamb sat at it.**