Prayer Watch Episode 3

Starter questions:

--What surprised you and captured your attention most about this episode? --What stood out to you about how Jesus interacted with the children? What does it say to you that Jesus intentionally made time for children?

--What quote from this episode was the most meaningful or impactful to you, and why?

Table discussion (or individual reads):

--Read how Jesus holds up children, their importance, and their faith as something adults should pay attention to (Matthew 11:25-26; Matthew 18:1-6; Matthew 21:14-16; Mark 9:36-37; Mark 9:42; Luke 18:15-17)

--In answering the question from Abigail near the end of the episode, Jesus' character says the words from Isaiah 61:1-2a---where does Jesus actually say these words during his ministry? And how do the people react? (Luke 4:14-30) How does this illustrate what Jesus says in Matthew 18:2-4?

(Paul read commentary on Jesus Is Our Keeper on p. 63-64)

Table Discussion (or individual reads):

--In order to keep us, Jesus became like us. Paul wrote about it in Phillipians 2:5-8---what all did that entail, and how did the episode illustrate that?

--How should we respond to the knowledge that Jesus cherishes us enough as His children to a) ransom Himself as payment for our sin and b) restore our relationship with God? --Not only did Jesus become like us to keep us, He also promises through the Holy Spirit to make us more like Him---which is exactly what He did in the lives of Mary, Matthew, Simon Peter and the other disciples. Read Galatians 5:18-24 and make a list of the characteristics that become ours through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Personal Reflection—

--In the episode, Jesus' character asks the children to recite the daily prayer of the Jews---the *Shema*. As you read through the whole prayer in Deuteronomy 6:4-9, we see Moses' reminder to the Israelites of their responsibility to not only teach their children about their covenant relationship with God, but to also conduct their whole lives around that relationship. What are the challenges for you in doing that? What can you ask for God's help in that?

Next week, 10/10: The Rock On Which It Is Built