

The Fishers

By Rod

Episode II: On the Mount

Josh You certainly get a good view from up here. Look, Adam, you can see Capernaum over there. And all the boats on the Sea of Galilee. I expect one's your dad's.

Adam Yeah, yeah. It's a great view I'm sure but I'm exhausted – and hungry. Where are the girls?

Josh I expect they're listening to Jesus.

Adam Still! He must have finished by now. It must be the longest sermon on record. Our Rabbi goes on long enough but this Jesus fellow is in a different league.

Josh I don't know. I found some of what he said quite interesting. I liked the bit where he said, what was it er, um... "Blessed are the poor, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." You could see the rich people getting a bit upset.

Adam I lost it when he said "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for they will be filled." My stomach started yelling "Fill me, fill me!" and I couldn't think about anything else. Where are those girls? I've got to get something to eat.

Josh Talk of the devil – there they are. [*Calling*] Beth, Lydia we're over here.

Lydia Oh, hi there guys. We've been looking for you.

Beth Hi Adam, hi Josh. Where did you disappear off to?

Josh Adam got bored.

Beth Bored! How could you? That was some of the most amazing stuff I've ever heard. Lydia and I were transfixed.

Adam I didn't say I got bored. I said I got hungry.

Beth You and your stomach. Don't you ever think of anything else?

Lydia Well, he does think about Esther, of course.

Beth Oh yes. I forgot about her. Is she here?

Lydia I didn't see her.

Beth No wonder Adam wanted to leave early.

Adam Leave it out will you.

Lydia Ooh, touchy. *[Girls giggle]*

Josh So what did you girls make of Jesus' teaching then?

Lydia It was incredible. It was mind blowing. He really seemed to want to make you think differently – on a different level.

Beth Yeah, there was that stuff about loving your enemies.

Adam A load of rubbish if you ask me. How can anyone love their enemies? It doesn't make sense. That's precisely why they are your enemies.

Lydia But Jesus explained that God loves us even when we do bad things against him – so in loving our enemies we are simply behaving as God does.

Beth Lydia has got a point there, Adam.

Adam *[Grudgingly]* I suppose so.

Josh Yes, but I wasn't so sure about his "eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth" bit. He seemed to be implying that we just let ourselves get bullied. What was it he said "If someone strikes you on the right cheek turn him the other also"? That wouldn't work on the back streets of Galilee. You'd get beaten up about once a day.

Beth Yes, I must say, I didn't quite understand all that but he did give us the most beautiful model prayer. You must agree that it was incredible – so deep. "Our Father in heaven." It was amazing the way he spoke to God in such a familiar way – he just seemed to call him dad.

Josh We didn't hear that bit – we'd already left.

Beth Already! But you missed you much.

Josh Adam started to get restless when Jesus said the bit about lust.

Beth You mean "Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart." I remember.

Josh Yes that's it.

Lydia I expect he felt guilty about Esther. No wonder he had to leave.

Adam Look, Lydia, will you stop going on about Esther.

Lydia Sorry, Adam. I won't mention her again.

Adam Thank you.

Lydia Esther the rest of Jesus' teaching, Beth, what did you think of it?

Adam Give me strength!

Beth Well I like his story at the end about the two builders.

Josh What was that about.

Beth Well there was a wise builder who built on rock and a foolish one who built his house on sand.

Adam Sounds like common sense to me.

Beth It started to rain and guess what happened?

Josh They got wet?

Beth Well the foolish builder got wet because his house's sandy foundations were washed away.

Adam [*Sarcastic*] Incredible, what amazing teaching!

Josh What's the point of the story, Beth?

Beth Jesus said that anyone who ignores his words (like Adam!!) is like the foolish builder and is just heading for a crash. But anyone who puts his teaching into practice is like the wise builder.

Adam He rates himself this Jesus fellow.

Josh Yes he does appear to have quite a high opinion of himself - for a carpenter.

Lydia True but you've got to admit that his teaching is something new. I for one feel that we should continue to follow him around.

Beth He did say "seek and you will find". I reckon we may regret it for ever if we give up now and go home.

Lydia So how about it guys? What do you think?

Josh I'm game. But what about you Adam?

Adam We might as well I suppose - but on two conditions

Lydia What are they?

Adam One: you don't keep going on about Esther

Beth }
Lydia } [*together*] Agreed.
Josh }

Adam And two: we go and find something to eat right away.

Lydia It's a deal. In fact Beth and I met this family who offered us some supper.

Adam Why didn't you say so earlier?

Beth Yes, they said they'd got some bread and plenty of your favourite food.

Adam What's that?

Beth Fish!

Adam Oh no!

THE END