

The Fishers
By Rod

Episode VI - Personal Encounters

- Beth He's an incredible man.
- Lydia Yes, he's so gracious and caring. I've never met anyone like him.
- Adam I agree. You really felt he knew all about you when he spoke to you.
- Beth Yes, I'm so glad we had a chance to speak with him personally. We seem to have been following him round for ages but we've always been at the back of the crowd.
- Adam Or at the back of a boat.
- Beth Yes, and we've never got close to him.
- Lydia I couldn't believe it when he called us to come forward. You could see the adults were surprised.
- Adam "Children should be seen and not heard" one of them muttered as we went past.
- Beth But Jesus turned the tables on them good and proper. I could tell that he was looking the adults firmly in the eye when he said that bit "I praise you father because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned and revealed them to little children."
- Adam Yes they looked decidedly shifty and uncomfortable .
Although, I must say, I wasn't so keen on the way he called us "little children".
- Beth Well there were some little ones with us.
- Adam I suppose so.
- Lydia You're very quiet Josh.

Josh I was thinking.

Lydia Oh really, what with?

Josh Thank you, Lydia, I'll deal with you later.

Lydia Ooh, is that a threat or a promise.

Beth What were you thinking Josh?

Josh Well, as you know, I was all for calling it a day and giving up on Jesus. The demands he was making were too much.

Adam You mean the bit about loving him more than our mothers and fathers.

Josh Yeah, that's right, but now I've met him and spoken with him face to face like I think I understand what he was getting at.

Beth Which was what exactly?

Josh Well we've seen him heal people and even met someone he raised from the dead.

Lydia Oh yes, Adam's friend Esther.

Adam Don't start Lydia. Go on Josh.

Josh We've seen Jesus command a storm on the sea of Galilee to stop - just like a parent telling off a naughty child.

Adam Aye but the difference is that the storm did exactly what it was told.

Beth Remember that Lydia and I weren't there, we're only going on what you and Adam said happened.

Adam But it's true, Beth. Jesus was totally in control.

Lydia Go on Josh, what are you driving at?

Josh Well we've seen all these things and we've heard him give the most amazing teaching on loving your enemies, and that sort of thing, but all along I think we've been missing one important thing.

Lydia What's that?

Josh Well we've been saying "He's an incredible man" and
 "We've never met a man like him."

Beth But it's true. I never have met a man like him.

Josh But that's the whole point. There never has been a man like
 him, and there never will be – because he's not a man.

Adam Not a man? What ever do you mean?

Josh He's more than a man.

Lydia More than a man?

Josh Yes, you know he keeps calling himself the son of man.

Beth Yes, I had noticed that. It is an odd title.

Josh Well I think he is using it to show that he is the Messiah.

Adam The Messiah!

Beth You mean the one they keep banging on about at Sabbath
 school? The one who is going to bring salvation to Israel.

Josh Yes. The Messiah, the son of God.

Lydia It would make sense. It would explain why he began that
 prayer he taught as just as if he was talking to his dad. If God
 is his dad, it would be entirely logical.

Adam And it would explain how he could bring Esther back to like
 and also command the storm to stop. If he's God's son then
 he would have control over everything: life and death and
 even the weather.

Josh And it also explains why he expects us to put him first –
 even above our family. Our parents would understand that
 the son of God should come above them in our hearts.

Lydia Josh, you're right. It does all make sense.

Adam No wonder the religious leader accuse him of blasphemy and
 claiming to be God. That's exactly what he is doing.

Beth Yes, but he's not a blasphemer – because he really is God.

Adam Wow, that's amazing. Josh you're a genius. How did you figure it out.

Josh I didn't.

Adam You must have done.

Josh No honestly. It came to me when Jesus said to us "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest". I really thought he was talking to me personally .
Inviting me to follow him.

Adam I felt the same sort of thing when I saw him command that storm to go away.

Josh I'm so glad we didn't give up and go home. Meeting him face to face has made such a difference.

Beth Yes, we're so lucky to have met him. If we'd only heard about him, we might never have understood who he really is.

Lydia I know what we should do.

Adam What's that Lyd?

Lydia We should go home.....

Josh Go home? Why?

Lydia Yeah, go home get all our friends and bring them to meet Jesus.

Beth Hey, that's a great idea, what do you guys reckon?

Josh It's better than fishing.

Adam It sure is.

Lydia But it is fishing, fishing for men.

THE END