

# Short Talk

(SHT096)

## Chosen by Jesus

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ALL AGE WORSHIP  
RESOURCES.ORG



## SHORT TALK: “Chosen by Jesus”

- Aim of Short talk:** To teach that Jesus chooses us to be His followers; not because of our gifts or abilities, but because He loves us.
- Use of Short talk:** This is a short All Age talk picking out one issue from the Lectionary Gospel reading of the Sunday main service. The talk stands alone and assumes that the Gospel Bible reading may not yet have been read to the congregation. It could be used for example, for the whole congregation before the children go out to their age specific groups, leaving the adults with a full sermon later.
- Main themes:** Jesus, Chosen, Love, Grace
- Biblical references:** John 15:9-17
- Lectionary:** Year B – The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter
- Props:** This talk works best if you can project a picture of:
- Stephen Fry
  - David Beckham
  - Adele

I want you to imagine that next Saturday afternoon we will be having a football match against *N* (Name of another church near to your church)

- As we put our football team together, we have the opportunity to choose either Stephen Fry (*Project picture*) or David Beckham (*Project picture*) or Adele (*Project picture*) to come and make up our team.
- Who would you choose to come and be part of our football team? (*Receive answers from congregation*)
- Why would you choose them? (*Receive answers from congregation*)

It is pretty obvious isn't it that we would choose David Beckham to come and be part of our football team because he has the gift of being a great footballer.

- When we choose someone to be part of a sports team, we tend to choose someone who is good at sport.
- Now that's great if we are chosen, but it is really hard if we are not chosen because we aren't considered good enough for the team.

How about if we needed a team to take part in a quiz evening against *N* (Name of another church near to your church)?

- Who would you choose to come and be part of that quiz team out of Stephen Fry (*Project picture*), David Beckham (*Project picture*) or Adele (*Project picture*)? (*Receive answers from congregation*)
- Why would you choose them? (*Receive answers from congregation*)

We would probably choose Stephen Fry wouldn't we because he is a highly intelligent man who is brilliant at general knowledge?

- When we choose someone to be part of a quiz team, we tend to choose someone who is really brainy.
- Again that's great if we are chosen, but hard if we aren't.

Imagine now that we need to put together a small choir to enter a singing competition amongst all the local churches in this area.

- Who would you choose to come and be part of that choir out of Stephen Fry (*Project picture*) or David Beckham (*Project picture*) or Adele (*Project picture*)? (*Receive answers from congregation*)
- Why would you choose them? (*Receive answers from congregation*)

We would probably choose Adele wouldn't we because she has the gift of an amazing voice?

- When we choose someone to be part of a choir, we tend to choose someone who can sing well.

And maybe some of you here have been chosen to be part of a choir, which is great,

- whereas others of you may have suffered the disappointment of auditioning for a choir and being told that your voice wasn't good enough.

When we choose someone to be part of a team;

- be it a sports team, or a quiz team, or a choir, or a beauty contest or something else altogether,
- we will choose people who have got the right skills or gifts or who look good or who are brainy don't we?

We don't tend to choose the people who on the surface have nothing to offer.

Now Jesus too has a team.

- a team of people who are needed to share the good news of His love with others.
- I wonder who He chooses to be part of His team today.

Does Jesus only choose the people who are really good; who hardly ever do anything wrong?

- Does Jesus only choose the really brainy people; the ones who are most able to speak out His message of love to others?
- Does Jesus only choose the beautiful people; who look so gorgeous that everyone is attracted to them?
- Does Jesus only choose the people who seem to have really got life sorted out; who don't seem to have any problems?

I wonder who you think Jesus chooses to be part of His team.

- Listen to what Jesus says: *"You didn't choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won't spoil."* (John 15:16 – The Message Version)

The good news for us is that Jesus chooses **each one of us** to be part of His team.

- He doesn't look at people the way we do and only choose the people who are good or brainy or beautiful or have life sorted.
- Jesus chooses each one of us to be part of His team because He loves us.
- It is as simple as that.

Hear that again.

- Jesus chooses each one of us to be part of His team because He loves us.

So today, receive the wonderful truth that Jesus **chooses you** simply because He loves you.