

Season 3

Episode 14: Expose'

Original Air Date: March 28th 2007

Facilitation Date: April 3rd 2007

Episode Information:

Hurley begins to suspect that Sawyer may be involved in an island mystery surrounding two fellow survivors, and Sun learns the truth about her past kidnapping attempt by The Others.

New Characters:

- Howard L. Zuckerman - Television Director - Flashback off Island

Overall Episode Discussion Theme:

- "Expose'" deals primarily with Nikki and Paulo's back-story. In this particular lesson we will be focusing on them in the context of how materialism tears people apart.

Key Show Facts:

- Paulo and Nikki are discovered lifeless.
- Sawyer, Charlie, and Hurley launch an investigation to determine what exactly happened.
- Charlie reveals to Sun that it was him and Sawyer that attacked her - not the others.
- Sawyer discovers the diamonds that Nikki was attempting to hide.
- Flashbacks reveal Paulo and Nikki's back-story including a murderous plot to acquire a fortune and how they spent their time on the island.

Time for speculation on the show – Sample Topics

- Are Nikki and Paulo dead?
 - For the record, they are.

If you could look back on last week's show and plan this lesson... what would you focus on?

Review: What do we know about Nikki and Paulo?

Scripture: **1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NIV)**

"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."

- What does the teaching mean to you?
 - What is the main theme/point of the passage?
 - What advice does it give?
- How does this teaching relate to what happened in this week's episode?

Clip 1 – Materialism – 4:32 – 7:07 – "He's Gone."

- What are some free association words that come to mind when you hear the word "materialism"?
- What is materialism?

- Definition: **ma-te-ri-al-ism** - *noun*

urbandictionary.com

1. Devotion to material wealth (tangible objects). It is also a philosophy that states that all things will eventually be explained by physical properties. Most Westerners are materialists. Which means they are jerks that crave material wealth and will go to no end to get more.

dictionary.com

1. preoccupation with or emphasis on material objects, comforts, and considerations, with a disinterest in or rejection of spiritual, intellectual, or cultural values.

- What is a material...
 - object?
 - comfort?
 - consideration?

- What is important about spiritual, intellectual, and cultural values?
 - In the definition, materialistic endeavors are put in opposition to these values.
 - Are they opposites?
 - Can you be materialistic and spiritual?
 - Why?
 - Why not?

Clip 2 – Materialism – 32:41 – 34:16 – “It could have torn us apart.”

- Paulo mentions that he believes the diamonds would have torn them apart?
 - Do you think that Nikki is materialistic?
 - What does she cherish?
 - What has she done in the past to secure her interests?
 - Do you think that Paulo is materialistic?
 - What does he cherish?
 - What has he done in the past to secure his interests?

- Do you believe that Nikki and Paulo care for each other?
 - Did the diamonds tear them apart?
 - Or were the diamonds all they ever had?

- If you could choose to have many material objects, comforts, and considerations or have a solid spiritual, intellectual, and cultural core - which would you choose?
 - It seems most people would choose spiritual, intellectual, and cultural values.

- Why then, is our culture so dependent on material things?
 - Is there any good that comes from these things?
 - Why?
 - Why not?

- Do you think that cultures that are less concerned with material things are better?
 - Are these people’s lives more fulfilling?
 - Why?
 - Why not?

Clip 3 – Materialism – 37:12 – 41:20 (longer version - 42:08) – “I found the diamonds.”

- What events led to Paulo and Nikki’s deaths?
 - What could Paulo have done differently that would have prevented the proceeding events?
 - What if he had not been so desperate to hold on to what he cherishes?

 - What could Nikki have done differently that would have prevented the proceeding events?
 - What if she had not been so desperate to hold on to what she cherishes?

- Who is ultimately more to blame?
 - Paulo
 - Nikki?
 - Why?

- The final five minutes of this episode very clearly show us how desperation and greed for our material desires can entirely undo our lives.

- What can we take away from this episode?
 - What should we pay attention to in our own lives?
 - Ex. Are we sacrificing the love of our friends and family because we are lost in our material desires?
 - What can we do in order to stay focused on what really matters?

Devotional Activity: (10 Minutes)

The purpose of this devotional activity is show there is something more rewarding than material things. Layout a material prize (\$1.00 bill, \$5.00 bill, gift-card, candy, etc) for every person in the group. Reveal there are two doors. Explain that behind door number one is the permission to take one of the material prizes home with you. Reveal that behind door number two is a mystery group experience. Have everyone who intends to select door number one take their material prize and go to one side of the room. Take everyone who elected to select door number two to the other side of the room where you announce that, following the class, the people who selected door number two, will make each other root beer floats, or go out for coffee or pizza, etc. While the people who selected door number one can take their prize and go home. The overriding idea is to show that passing up material objects for a real opportunity to connect to other people, to spend time with friends, is its own reward (the coffee, pizza, root beer floats, etc, is just a bonus).

Further Speculation:

- Will the survivors ever find out they buried Nikki and Paulo alive?
- What is Sun thinking now that she knows the truth about her abduction?

Clip times refer to episodes presented without commercials (i.e. On a DVD or legally downloaded through iTunes - <http://phobos.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewVideo?id=220100195&p=200507719&s=143441>).

Most recent episode also available at <http://dynamic.abc.go.com/streaming/landing> - streaming only.

Scripture courtesy of <http://www.biblegateway.com>.

Definitions courtesy of <http://www.dictionary.com> and <http://www.urbandictionary.com>.

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