

Blessed Are Those Who Seek the Lord Broken and Spilled Out

Sunday, August 22, 2021

John 12: 1-8 NIV

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵"Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. ⁷"Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

- 1. Extravagant Love and Praise (v.3)**
Psalm 99:5 Exalt the Lord; worship at His footstool.
Luke 10: 39 Mary sat at the Lord's feet and listened.
Mark 14:3 She broke the vial and poured the perfume over His head.
- 2. A Pleasing Sacrifice (v.5)**
Mark 14: 3-5 the perfume could have been sold for over 300 denarii
Matthew 6: 19-20 Lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven.
Philippians 4:18 A sweet smelling sacrifice, acceptable and pleasing to God.
- 3. The Master's Praise (vs. 7-8)**
Mark 14: 8-9 She has anointed My body beforehand for the burial.
Luke 21: 3-4 This widow put in more. Out of her poverty, all she had.
Matthew 25:23 Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord.

Conclusion: Let us offer extravagant love and praise to Jesus as Mary did. Let us practice our worship of what is to come in heaven, even now as we live. Let us do that which pleases Him. We will never regret giving our best to the King of all kings! *For there is no one greater to give our best to!*

LIFE GROUP LESSON Broken and Spilled Out

Week of August 22 – August 28, 2021

Ice Breaker: Have you ever regretted giving your very best to Jesus? Why do we hold back at times from offering extravagant worship to Him who is worthy?

Read John 12: 1-8.

1. How close is the Passover? What is soon to happen to Jesus?
2. What type of gathering is happening? Who is among Jesus?
3. What did Mary do during the gathering? (v.3) Also read Mark 14:3.
4. Why would she do that? Was it revelation by God to understand something others did not? Why would she be given this?
5. Was there risk in her doing this? Who was she focused on? What does this tell us about how we worship Jesus?
6. How did the disciple Judas react? (v.4-5) What was his reasoning? Was that really his motive?
7. Have others questioned your worship at times? Who do you focus on?
8. Did Jesus try to stop her?
9. Were her actions selfish or selfless? What motivated Mary to do what she did for Jesus?
10. What was Jesus' response to Judas? What did He reveal?
11. What does Jesus mean in v. 8? How does this apply to us in our faith?
12. Read Mark 14: 3-5. What did Mary's extravagant offering mean to Jesus? Was it wasted?
13. Why was her gift a pleasing sacrifice?
14. Read Matthew 6: 19-20. What does this text mean? How do we live it today in our faith walk?
15. Is Jesus asking us to go into debt or run ourselves ragged to honor Him? What is pleasing to Him? What does He want in our worship of Him?
16. What was the blessing for Mary in her sacrifice and worship? What was the blessing to others who were also there?

Point to ponder: When we worship our King and Lord with all our heart and let our adoration of Him move us, our gifts will always be a pleasing aroma to Him. May the Spirit be our guide to direct our giving, our serving and our praising of Jesus. May we listen and know it is never wasted and we in turn receive the Master's praise.