

Jesus Anointed at Bethany—[Mark 14:1–11](#)

Topics:

Beauty, Criticism, Devotion, Giving Up, Gospel, Judging Others, Love, Money, Poor, Preparation, Sacrifice

Open It

1. *When have you ever been criticized for doing something good?
2. What do you think motivates parents to sacrifice for their children?
3. What is one sacrifice you made for someone else?

Explore It

1. When and where did the events of this story take place? ([14:1–3](#))
2. Why did the Jewish leaders not want to arrest Jesus during the Feast of Unleavened Bread? ([14:2](#))
3. What attitude did many of the common people have toward Jesus? ([14:2](#))
4. *What amazing thing did a woman do while Jesus was visiting Bethany? Where? ([14:3](#))
5. *What reaction did the woman's actions get? Why? ([14:4–5](#))
6. What caused some people with Jesus to become indignant? ([14:4–5](#))

7. What does this incident tell us about some people's understanding of who Jesus was and why He had come? ([14:4–6](#))
8. *Whom did Jesus rebuke? Why? ([14:6](#))
9. How did Jesus evaluate the behavior of the woman who poured out the perfume? ([14:6](#))
10. What did Jesus predict? ([14:9](#))
11. What did Judas do? ([14:10–11](#))
12. How did Judas betray Jesus? ([14:10–11](#))
13. How did the chief priests react to Judas's visit? Why? ([14:10–11](#))

Get It

1. *Why do you think the woman sacrificed so much perfume?
2. How would you have reacted if you had witnessed the woman pouring out a full year's wages' worth of perfume on someone's head?
3. In what way can a person betray Jesus?
4. What do you think might motivate a person to give up on Jesus, as Judas did?
5. When are Christians tempted to give up on their faith?

6. For what reasons do people reject Christ?
7. *What can we learn about values from the woman in this story?
8. How can we demonstrate our devotion to Christ?
9. How should we deal with the criticism and scorn of unbelievers?
10. How should you respond when others rebuke or harshly criticize your actions?
11. How does Jesus want us to treat the poor?
12. What tends to distract you from being fully devoted to Christ?
13. What kinds of sacrifices can a person make for God?
14. What sacrifice do you think God wants you to make for the sake of the gospel?

Apply It

1. *What is one way you can show your devotion to Christ above all other things, people, or ambitions in your life? When?
2. What is one step you could take this week toward helping the poor in a practical way?

