

05/31/20 Notes

Part of Just Getting Started A series on the Gospel of John
May 29, 2020

Message: Bold Commitment

Series: Just Getting Started

Recap: We're in the 18th week of this series on the Gospel of John. Written by one of many Johns in Scripture, this was the disciple who Jesus loved. Matthew, Mark, and Luke are synoptic gospels (they are similar in structure and content) but John is different. He wrote his gospel to the world, to you. John tells the story of Jesus' life, ministry, death, resurrection, and it tells the story that through Jesus, you're Just Getting Started!

What It Means to Have a Bold Commitment

John 12:1-2 (NLT)

1 Six days before the Passover celebration began, Jesus arrived in Bethany, the home of Lazarus—the man he had raised from the dead.
2 A dinner was prepared in Jesus' honor. Martha served, and Lazarus was among those who ate with him.

- Lazarus wanted to HONOR Jesus (v2)
- Martha SERVED Jesus (v2)

John 12:3 (NLT)

Then Mary took a twelve-ounce jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard, and she anointed Jesus' feet with it, wiping his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance.

- Mary WORSHIPED Jesus (v3)

Mary's Alabaster Box

Mary is mentioned three times in the gospels and each time she is at the feet of Jesus.

This time, she anoints Jesus' head and feet with a perfume (nard) preserved in an alabaster (stone/rock) jar. The perfume costs equivalent of a common laborer's wages for an entire year!

Jesus saw the sacrificial act of worship beautiful, others in the room saw it as pouring money on the ground.

David said in 2 Samuel 24:24, I will not present burnt offerings to the Lord my God that have cost me nothing. Mary wouldn't give something that cost her nothing, in fact, it most likely cost her dearly. Her offering was a great sacrifice.

I've heard an old preacher say, "If you're offering isn't a sacrifice, it's not really an offering!" There's a direct correlation between the value of sacrifice and value of the offering.

—Pastor Chad

Mary took down her hair and wiped/dried His feet. Jewish women didn't take their hair down in public, but she was willing to make the sacrifice for Jesus.

Her worship broke rules and traditions, but it was genuine... it was authentic... it was radical... it was real!

—Pastor Chad

John 12:4-6 (NLT)

4 But Judas Iscariot, the disciple who would soon betray him, said,
5 "That perfume was worth a year's wages. It should have been sold and the money given to the poor."

6 Not that he cared for the poor—he was a thief, and since he was in charge of the disciples' money, he often stole some for himself.

In the first time Judas is recording as speaking in the Gospels, he criticized Mary's worship. But Jesus came to Mary's defense.

John 12:7-8 (NLT)

7 Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial.

8 You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

In subtle form, Jesus tells that He will die.

Mary was showing her devotion to Jesus before it was too late. She was 'giving Him roses' while He was alive, instead of bringing them to the funeral!

-Warren Wiersbe

Jesus Breaks it Down

John 12:44-50 (NLT)

44 Jesus shouted to the crowds, "If you trust me, you are trusting not only me, but also God who sent me.

45 For when you see me, you are seeing the one who sent me.

46 I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer remain in the dark.

47 I will not judge those who hear me but don't obey me, for I have come to save the world and not to judge it.

48 But all who reject me and my message will be judged on the day of judgment by the truth I have spoken.

49 I don't speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it.

50 And I know his commands lead to eternal life; so I say whatever the Father tells me to say."

Do you have a bold commitment to Jesus?