

SCENTS & SACRIFICE

WEEK 2 | SUNDAY, MARCH 12

MARK 14:3-9

Sermon Notes

PRAYER CALENDAR

Monday | March 13

Read: Philippians 3:10 "And this, so that I may know Him [experientially, becoming more thoroughly acquainted with Him, understanding the remarkable wonders of His Person more completely] and [in that same way experience] the power of His resurrection [which overflows and is active in believers], and [that I may share] the fellowship of His sufferings, by being continually conformed [inwardly into His likeness even] to His death [dying as He did]"

Pray: Jesus, our hearts to long to KNOW You, really know You deeply and intimately. To know what hurts Your heart and what brings You joy. To experience the power of Your resurrection working in us. Give us a greater capacity to receive revelation about who You are, so we will seek you all the more.

Tuesday | March 14

Read: 1 Timothy 6:17-18 "As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. 18 They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share"

Pray: Father, we are asking for our hearts not to be overly attached to money or things .That we will not set our hopes on uncertain riches, but on You . Help us to trust You completely because You richly provide all things for us.

Wednesday | March 15

Read: James 4: 2b-3 "You do not have because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."

Pray: Thank You Father for encouraging us to ask. Help us to ask with confidence, knowing that if we ask anything according to Your will, You will hear and answer. Empower us to hold steadfast to Your promises, even when we don't see an immediate answer.

Thursday | March 16

Read: 2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness"

Pray: Jesus, give us a hunger for Your Word that we may be complete and equipped. Our mind is renewed as we look into Your word and we are transformed .Your word analyzes and judges the thoughts and purposes of our hearts and we want to meditate on it day and night.

Friday | March 17

Read: Colossians 3:1-2 "If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth."

Pray: We choose to set our minds on things above and not on the things of this world. Holy Spirit, help us to maintain a heavenly perspective and to reject the fears and worries the world tries to bring to our hearts.

One of the ways we can be more like Jesus is through our sacrifice. In Mark 14:3-9, Mary makes a huge sacrifice by anointing Jesus with a very expensive perfume. Those around were outraged because they knew they could have helped the poor in their community if they had sold the expensive perfume. This sacrifice didn't make sense to them. To Jesus, though, it made perfect sense. Jesus had raised Mary's brother Lazarus from the dead, and Mary was very grateful for that. She showed her gratitude through this sacrificial gift to Jesus.

Discuss as a Family:

- The perfume that Mary used to anoint Jesus would have been worth about a year's salary. That's a lot of money! Have you ever given something as valuable as Mary did? (valuable doesn't have to mean it's worth a lot of money; it just means it has a lot of worth) If so, what did you give? If not, what is holding you back?
- Talk about all the ways that Jesus has blessed your family. What could you give to show him how grateful you are for those blessings? (*This doesn't have to be a monetary gift. You can give your time or your talents as well.*)

Challenge: A real sacrifice can sometimes make us uncomfortable. If it's a sacrifice, it shouldn't be easy. This week, choose something to sacrifice for Jesus. Maybe you decide to give all of the money in your piggy bank to help someone in need. Maybe you spend less time playing video games to spend time volunteering or helping someone in need. Maybe you decide to donate some of your good toys, not the toys you don't play with anymore. Or maybe, you give up time on electronics to spend more time praying and reading the bible together.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for making the ultimate sacrifice for each of us by dying on the cross for our sins. Help us become more like you by making our own sacrifices to further your kingdom here on earth. Amen.

Mark 14:3-9 And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head.

There were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment wasted like that? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her. But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

Small Group Questions

What giving experience has caused me to become closer to God?

Am I giving in a way that still changes me, or has it become comfortable and routine?

If I asked myself the question, "What am I not giving and why," how would I answer that question? What areas immediately come to mind that you would not feel comfortable "explaining" to someone when asked why you didn't give that portion?
