



REFLECT

1. *Excluding family or home, what is your most prized possession?*
2. *Have you ever been called to make an extravagant sacrifice? Have you ever had the opportunity to offer an extravagant gift (for example, at a wedding or birthday)?*
3. *Walk us through the opportunity and your response.*

ENCOUNTER

What the world defines as waste, God often views as worship. For example, when Mary anointed Jesus' feet with oil, Judas (though his real motives) complained it was a waste. But Jesus, the son of God and Savior of the world, accepted it worship. This beautiful narrative is also told in Mark 14 and 26. Compare Mark's account with John's to see if you can expand your understanding of the passage.

See ENCOUNTER questions on the other side

TRANSFORM

7. *What might such an act as Mary's look like today? Conversely, what might a modern-day Judas look like?*
8. *Why is Jesus worth our best?*
9. *What is one way you can declare the infinite worth of Christ this coming week?*

PRAYER REQUESTS

4. *What details does John give us that Mark does not? What details does Mark give us that John does not?*
5. *Are there any major differences?*
6. *Why did Jesus say this was an important act?*
7. *Does Mark 14:7 mean that Jesus doesn't care about the poor? Why or why not?*

Mark 14:1-8 (ESV)	John 12:1-8 (ESV)
<p>1 It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, 2 for they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people.” 3 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. 4 There were some who said to themselves indignantly, “Why was the ointment wasted like that? 5 For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor.” And they scolded her. 6 But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. 7 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. 8 She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. 9 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.”</p>	<p>1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. 2 So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. 3 Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, 5 “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” 6 He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. 7 Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. 8 For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me.”</p>