



III. Because Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ (John 12:9-11)

## Jesus Anointed At Bethany

John 12:1-11

- I. Because Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ (John 12:1-3)
  - a. Two separate anointings
    - i. Anointing by "the sinful woman of the city" – Luke 7:36-50
    - ii. Anointing by Mary – Mark 14:1-9, Matthew 26:6-13, John 12:1-11

*"True discipleship begins when you stop asking whether or not Jesus is useful, and start finding that He is beautiful."*

- II. Because Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ (John 12:4-8)
  - a. Matthew 25:31-40



### Prayer

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit to guide your time together.

### My Story

What is your favorite scent? Does it remind you of a fond memory?

### Digging Deep

1. Reflecting on Sunday's message, what idea or lesson stood out to you the most?
2. This scene is set six days before the Jewish Passover and is a dinner celebrating the recently resurrected life of Lazarus! Have you ever been at a party or a celebration of some kind, and struggled to feel joyous due to other things on your mind?
3. **Read John 12:1-3.** What stands out about the sacrifice that Mary made? How do the details of her actions display as an act of authentic worship?

### Digging Deeper

4. **Read John 12:4-8.** What does Judas' reaction to Mary's sacrifice say about his priorities? How can we sometimes get caught up in having a similar reaction to other people's extreme sacrifices? Consider spending a few minutes of confession with the Lord seeking attitude alignment with His.

5. What was Jesus' response to Mary's sacrifice and Judas' objection?

6. Jesus approved of the perfume that was intended to be used at His death burial, to be anointed on Him during this celebration dinner. Why do you think Jesus accepted such a lavish gift? If you had a year's salary or time to use for Christ, how would you use it?
7. **Read John 12:9-11.** The chief priests wanted to kill Lazarus, when all he did was get brought back to life (not by his own will). What made Lazarus such a threat that garnered persecution?

### Taking It Home

8. Mary's humble sacrifice came from her ability to see how beautiful the person of Jesus Christ truly is. Judas' objection was partially due to him wanting more of a "practical use" from Mary's sacrifice. As a Jesus follower, reflect on your response to these questions: Do you follow Jesus because He is useful? Or because He is beautiful?
9. Lazarus was seen as a threat to the worldly authorities because as a result of his resurrected life, people could see the miracles of Jesus through him. Similarly, can people look at YOUR life and see the miracle of Jesus saving you from spiritual death to new life?

### Praying Together

As you close in prayer, thank God for the beauty of Christ and the magnificent gift of salvation that is given to us by the spilling of His blood. May we respond to Jesus' sacrifice through the spilling over of our worship and praise.