

The **Passion** of Jesus [John 12:1-11]

Intro –

Scripture –

John 12:1 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.”**

⁹ When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

In this story, there are 3 responses of people with vested interest in Jesus –

1. There are those who serve Jesus without thought of _____.
2. There are those who _____ Jesus and calculate the _____.
3. There are those who want to _____ Jesus at any _____.

Welcome: Happy New Year!

Welcome to Grace. We hope and pray you feel cared for when you walk through the doors of our church. At Grace, we focus on the basics of Christianity to help us grow and flourish. We devote ourselves to learning the Scriptures, Christian fellowship, and worship (see Acts 2:42-47). Join us on Sundays for worship and consider a small group during the week to get to know people and to help meet your needs spiritually.

Application in Community:

With a renewed sense of focusing on the basics, the best way that a Christian can grow in their faith is to learn how to live out the faith with other people. The following questions were written for small groups of two or more people to gather over coffee or a meal and discuss the application of the text of scripture for that week. So grab a friend and go...enjoy each other's company and ask each other the questions (or inquire about joining a group that does the same).

Questions:

Looking at the context, it was a dangerous time for Jesus. The political and religious leadership of the Nation sought to arrest and kill Him because Him was a threat. Those close to Jesus felt uneasy. Some suspected His time had come to be anointed as Messiah. Others believed He would face death. Still others were disappointed with His ministry and didn't know what to do.

1. **Read John 12:1-3** → This was an action without thought of cost – if you knew Jesus was Messiah, would you spend your entire bank account in one evening to lavishly acknowledge who He is? Why or why not?
2. **Read John 12:4-6** → If Judas was a thief, then why do you think Jesus put him in charge of the money bag? What does this say about Jesus' method of challenging people in their sin? Has Jesus put you in charge of something that you are not good at? What is it and what is Jesus trying to teach you?
3. **Read John 12:7-8** → What was Jesus saying? What does this teach us about money, our motives, Jesus' glory, and the poor?
4. **Read John 12:1-11** → Think about the character of each person mentioned in this story. Do you identify with Mary? Martha? Judas? Jesus? The crowd? The chief priests? ...and why?