

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Sermon Notes and Discussion - Jerry Shiver

3 Jul 2022

John 12:1-11

As chapter 11 wraps up Jesus has been marked for death by the Jewish High Priest Caiaphas and his followers tracked for information on his location. Chapter 12 takes place six days before the Passover where Jesus has arrived in Bethany (where Lazarus, Mary and Martha lived) to attend a dinner in his honor. While Martha served and Lazarus reclined with the other guests, Mary took a jar of very expensive perfume and poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, objects as to why the oil wasn't sold to help the poor. John notes Judas' true motive for his protest which was not concern for the poor but his desire to use the money for himself. Jesus rebukes Judas telling him to leave Mary alone and associates Mary's act with his imminent death and burial. John closes this scene by telling of a large crowd of Jews gathering to see both Jesus and Lazarus, who Jesus had recently raised from the dead, with many putting their faith in Jesus. As a result, the Chief Priest made plans to have Lazarus killed along with Jesus.

Discussion:

1. In his message, Ted said we worship what we believe is worth it and that worship is a direct response to the value you put on Jesus. What in Mary's act speaks to you most regarding worship? How do you/we show Jesus how we treasure Him?
2. Ted stated worship that breaks the mold is unashamedly centered on the person of Jesus Christ even in the face of threats. What do you see as the greatest threats to a Christian lifestyle today and how can we be more than just nominal Christians when addressing them? What should our expectations be regarding unbeliever's reactions to true worship (Jn 12:4-5) and what can we do to avoid what Ted called "Robbing Jesus of His glory"?
3. Ted used 2 Sam 24:18-25 to discuss the relationship between worship and sacrifice. Jesus demonstrated the ultimate act of worship to the Father with his sacrifice. Read Rom 12:1 and discuss what is the proper response to how we should now live?