

## Jesus Anointed at Bethany - Mark 14:1-11

*Topics:* Beauty, Criticism, Devotion, Giving Up, Gospel, Judging Others, Love, Money, Poor, Preparation, Sacrifice

### Open It

- \* 1. When have you ever been criticized for doing something good?
- 2. What do you think motivates parents to sacrifice for their children?
- 3. What is one sacrifice you made for someone else?

### Explore It

- 4. When and where did the events of this story take place? (14:1-3)
- 5. Why did the Jewish leaders not want to arrest Jesus during the Feast of Unleavened Bread? (14:2)
- 6. What attitude did many of the common people have toward Jesus? (14:2)
- \* 7. What amazing thing did a woman do while Jesus was visiting Bethany? Where? (14:3)
- \* 8. What reaction did the woman's actions get? Why? (14:4-5)
- 9. What caused some people with Jesus to become indignant? (14:4-5)
- 10. What does this incident tell us about some people's understanding of who Jesus was and why He had come? (14:4-6)
- \* 11. Whom did Jesus rebuke? Why? (14:6)
- 12. How did Jesus evaluate the behavior of the woman who poured out the perfume? (14:6)
- 13. What did Jesus predict? (14:9)
- 14. What did Judas do? (14:10-11)
- 15. How did Judas betray Jesus? (14:10-11)
- 16. How did the chief priests react to Judas's visit? Why? (14:10-11)

### Get It

- \* 17. Why do you think the woman sacrificed so much perfume?
- 18. How would you have reacted if you had witnessed the woman pouring out a full year's wages' worth of perfume on someone's head?
- 19. In what way can a person betray Jesus?
- 20. What do you think might motivate a person to give up on Jesus, as Judas did?
- 21. When are Christians tempted to give up on their faith?
- 22. For what reasons do people reject Christ?
- \* 23. What can we learn about values from the woman in this story?
- 24. How can we demonstrate our devotion to Christ?
- 25. How should we deal with the criticism and scorn of unbelievers?
- 26. How should you respond when others rebuke or harshly criticize your actions?
- 27. How does Jesus want us to treat the poor?
- 28. What tends to distract you from being fully devoted to Christ?
- 29. What kinds of sacrifices can a person make for God?
- 30. What sacrifice do you think God wants you to make for the sake of the gospel?

### Apply It

- \* 31. What is one way you can show your devotion to Christ above all other things, people, or ambitions in your life? When?
- 32. What is one step you could take this week toward helping the poor in a practical way?