

Lazarus Saturday & Palm Sunday

John 12.1-19

Focus: Following Mary's example, choosing to love Jesus supremely, no matter what others may think.

RESOURCES:

I found John Piper's brief sermon notes very helpful again this week:

[http://
www.desiringgod.org/messages/
leave-her-alone-judas-this-is-for-
my-burial](http://www.desiringgod.org/messages/leave-her-alone-judas-this-is-for-my-burial)

and these notes from Bob Deffinbaugh are helpful as well:

[https://bible.org/seriespage/27-
sweet-smell-love-and-stench-
greed-john-121-8](https://bible.org/seriespage/27-sweet-smell-love-and-stench-greed-john-121-8)



2017 Annual Priority:

To embrace & exalt Christ as most worthy in our lives, that we might: know Him truly, Love Him supremely, obey Him faithfully, and share Him gladly

Discussion:

- Read the passage aloud. Now read the parallel passage in Mark 14.3-11. (OPTION: you can watch the "Gospel of John" video for this section here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47OkuvT5JFo>

(It starts at about 1:40:00 and lasts about 6 minutes. (It is quite well done))

- What were the different motivations the people named had for honoring Jesus with this banquet?
- Jesus describes Mary's act as a "beautiful thing". Why do you think Jesus regarded this as beautiful? Why was this a particularly appropriate act in light of Jesus' impending death within the week?
- How can we apply to our acts of worship the principles that made Mary's offering so beautiful? How would this kind of worship look like in your life? What is one act of worship you could do that would be a beautiful thing to Jesus?
- What is your reaction to Judas' desire to get that money for himself? How does greed tempt you? How are you tempted to rationalize it and explain it away? Jesus says in Luke 12.15 to watch out and guard against greed. What helps guard your heart?
- What do you learn about giving to the poor from this passage and how does that relate to guarding against greed?
- What are you considering doing during lent to better prepare your heart to celebrate Good Friday and Easter? Here is a helpful list of resources from our website:

<http://northwake.com/resources/articles/lent-resources/>