

A Tale of Two People Mark 14:1-11

The BIG Question ... Why do I follow Jesus ... is it because He's precious and _____, or is it because He's _____? Psalm 73:25-26, "Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

The BIG Idea ... Jesus is worthy of _____.

The Scene ... Is framed by the _____ of Jesus' impending death:

- Verses 1-2: It's two days before the Passover, and the chief priests and the scribes are conspiring to arrest and kill Jesus.
- Verses 10-11: Judas Iscariot is so enraged by what happens in this scene that he promises to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver (Matt. 26:15).

Simon's House

- In Bethany
- He is known as "Simon _____."
- The only plausible explanation for Simon holding a dinner party in his home is that he had been _____. Application: If you are a believer in Jesus, then what Jesus had done for Simon, He's done for you.

Mary's Worship

- She breaks the bottle and anoints Jesus with every _____ of the costly ointment.
- It's an all-in, no-holds-barred _____. It's reckless abandon. It's extravagant worship.
- Jesus is worth infinitely more than a \$20,000 bottle of ointment, and so Mary is holding _____ from Jesus. She's pouring out all her _____ on Jesus.

The Disciples' Response

- They are _____.
- They scold (literally, "_____ at") Mary.
- _____ is leading the charge against Mary (see John 12:4-6): "This is such a waste—it could have fed a hungry family for an entire year." Application: When you give up much to make much of Jesus, some people are going to say about you what the disciples say about Mary.

Mary's Rescue

- "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me." Application: It's a _____ thing _____ Jesus when we pour ourselves out in making much of Jesus.
- Jesus will _____ what she has done, and He won't let us forget, either.
- Jesus defends Mary by _____ her and the condemnation the disciples are heaping on her ... and answering for her. Application: In our story, Jesus steps in to face the _____ we deserve. He is our _____—our go-between, rescuing us by becoming the substitute for us and dying in our place (Romans 8:33-34).

The BIG Question ... Why do I follow Jesus ... is it because He's precious and beautiful, or is it because He's useful? Psalm 73:25-26, "Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."

2 Samuel 24:24, "I will not offer anything to the LORD my God that costs me _____."