

Kingdom Rising
“Preparation for Burial”

GETTING STARTED

ICE BREAKER: What’s the most expensive gift you’ve ever given to someone?

KEY THOUGHT: ***Do the beautiful thing to Jesus***

GETTING THE POINT

Read Mark 14:1-2

1. What is the irony of the Passover as backdrop to the religious rulers’ plot to kill Jesus?
2. Describe the risk of “uproar” if the rulers do not act with stealth.

Read Mark 14:3-11

3. How does the value of this gift of nard reflect on the woman who brought it?
4. How does the “scolding” of the onlookers contrast with Jesus’ response?
5. Why do you think Mark repeats the phrase “She has done” three times? (14:6, 8, 9)
6. How does Judas’ offer to betray Jesus connect to Mark 14:1-2?

GETTING DEEPER

Read Matthew 25:35-40

1. In what way can giving to the poor today be seen as giving to Jesus?
2. Why do you suppose Jesus identified with those who are marginalized in our world?

GETTING PERSONAL

1. What is your reaction when the onlookers “scold” the woman? What is your reaction when Jesus defends her?
2. Why was it significant that this ointment was applied to Jesus in preparation for His burial?
3. What are some of the motivations we might have for giving a gift to Jesus? How do you know when you are giving a gift sacrificially, from your heart?
4. What other ways can we give to Jesus today besides giving to the poor?
5. How do we receive the “commendation” of Jesus today?

PRAY...

that we might follow the example of the woman in giving what is beautiful to Jesus.