



HOLY WEEK



DAY 3: BACKGROUND

On the Wednesday before His death, Jesus was still. Though Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday of Holy Week were filled with harrowing experiences that seemed to be drawing Him ever nearer to His death, on Wednesday Jesus stayed out of the public eye.

On this day, Jesus and His disciples had gone to the home of a man in Bethany known as Simon the leper (Matthew 26:6). Simon belonged to a growing part of the population known not for their accomplishments, but for what was wrong with them. It was a difficult life, but it must also have been strangely liberating since the first thing people learned about Simon was his broken past. Simon lived among the few who did not have to pretend to be what they were not. He was Simon, the leper. People could choose his company or reject it, but that was who he was.

In Simon's home, during their meal together, Mary of Bethany, Lazarus' sister, came to Jesus with an alabaster flask of perfume (Mark 14:3). She had been saving this perfume, worth a year's wages, to perform this very act. She began to pour the perfume on Jesus' head and feet, which required breaking open its container. Like popping the cork on a \$20,000 bottle of champagne, Mary intentionally and deliberately offered Jesus everything she had. By giving Him her most valuable possession, Mary was expressing that she knew what Jesus was about to give of Himself was for her.

(Excerpt from shereadstruth.com)

DAY 3 - APRIL 8th

READ:

Mark 14:3-11 NIV

3 While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head. 4 Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, “Why this waste of perfume? 5 It could have been sold for more than a year’s wages and the money given to the poor.” And they rebuked her harshly. 6 “Leave her alone,” said Jesus. “Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. 7 The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. 8 She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. 9 Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.” 10 Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. 11 They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

Matthew 26:14-16 NIV

14 Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests 15 and asked, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?” So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. 16 From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

Luke 22:3-6 NIV

3 Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. 4 And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. 5 They were delighted and agreed to give him money. 6 He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present.

30 They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. 31 After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

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Zechariah 11:12-13 NIV

12 I told them, “If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.” So they paid me thirty pieces of silver. 13 And the Lord said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the handsome price at which they valued me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the Lord.

RESPOND:

1. Have you ever received what you considered to be an extravagant gift? How did you respond? Why?
2. Why is what Mary did evidence that she recognized who Jesus truly was?
3. Have you ever been betrayed by someone who was close to you? How did that make you feel? How did you respond?
4. Have you ever betrayed someone you were close to? Why? How did you mend the transgression?
5. Why is it such good news that we have been forgiven of our greatest transgression against the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords? How are you going to respond today to this audacious forgiveness?

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ACTIVITY:

Mary was in awe of who Jesus was and what He came to the Earth to accomplish, in light of that, Mary gave. When we truly get who Jesus is and what Jesus did, we respond with the same posture of Jesus, which is giving. Take an opportunity today to check out our missions' page to see where is an opportunity that you can give in light of what Jesus gave.

We're on mission every day, serving inmates, homeless children, single moms and the fatherless. You don't have to leave Rutherford County to find life-changing, life-giving opportunities to serve and to give. You can find the webpage below.

newvisionlife.com/missions

PRE-K ACTIVITY:

Day 3: Judas agrees to betray Jesus

There were some leaders who didn't like Jesus. Judas went to the leaders and said he would show them who Jesus was for 30 pieces of silver.

Activity: 30 pieces of silver

Tear off a sheet of aluminum foil. Help your child cut the foil into pieces. Guide him to gently wad those pieces into balls and then flatten them to look like coins. If no aluminum foil is available, provide paper and a grey or silver crayons. Encourage your child to color the paper and then cut the paper into circles. Make 30 coins. Remind him that Judas "betrayed" Jesus for 30 coins. For additional fun, hide the coins and encourage your child to find them

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KIDS ACTIVITY:

Day 3: Judas betrays Jesus

Try to collect 30 coins (ones that are silver if you can). Count them out as a family and then get ready to play a fun game! Pick a room in the house and hide the coins like Easter eggs. Have a contest between family members to see who can find the most in a set time. Make it more challenging by adding more rooms and less time. Up the stakes, by giving out fun prizes.

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