

“Resisting Rescue”

Accompanies the 3/20/20 Sermon

Rejecting Rescue: Mary & Judas

This week we will look at Mary’s worship of Jesus and Judas’ greed. Mary loved Jesus deeply because of who he was. Judas followed Jesus because of what Jesus could do for him. Once he realized that Jesus would not be the kind of ruler that would give him power, he betrayed him. This week we will look at these contrasting characters in the book of John and ask ourselves what our motivation is for being near to Jesus.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures together and then use the questions below (or any you wish to add) to discuss the text and unpack its meaning.



Have someone in your group read **John 12:1-11**

1. Who are the characters that are referred to in today's scripture? What do you know about them?
2. What was Passover and why is it relevant to this moment (*Exodus 12*)?
3. Mary chose to give Jesus glory by serving him. What was her likely motivation? What were practical applications and symbolic applications of the oil that she poured out on Jesus?
4. What was Judas' response to Mary's actions? How do his actions contrast with that of Mary's? What does this reveal about Judas' motivation of following Jesus?

GETTING PRACTICAL

Today we read about Mary honoring Jesus and giving glory to Him. We find that Judas seeks to gain power, glory, and influence for himself.

1. What do you find most intriguing about Mary's actions?
2. What do you find most despicable about Judas' actions?
3. There was no doubt that Jesus was the highest priority for Mary. It was shown by her actions. Could the same be said about you? If people were to examine your life would they see that Jesus is your highest priority?

Self-reflection: Spend 5-10 minutes in quiet and search your heart. Are there areas in your life that do not reflect Jesus as your priority? Has something else taken his place? Consider how you spend your time, finances, and what you most often talk about.