Decenii (19) John 12:1-11

THO LINE IN

- We'll continue in John because there are important things we believe about the Bible:
- It's inspired on purpose by the Spirit
- Its Author is the Author of all of life
- Its ideas/themes can batter down the walls of the worst parts of me to receive every bit of grace it contains



- Chapters 1~12 are called, "The book of signs"
- ♦ 7 claims, 7 signs, 7 responses
- Christ as God's perfect, complete revelation of Himself



John 12:1 New American Standard Bible ¹ Jesus, therefore, six days before the Passover, came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom

Jesus had raised from the dead.



- ♦ 7 days until the cross
- Bethany = House of obedience
- His friends are there and He loves them



John 12:2

New American Standard Bible

² So they made Him a supper there, and Martha was serving; but Lazarus was one of those reclining *at the table* with Him.



- Martha ~ serving everyone
- What if we followed this example?
- Lazarus hanging with Jesus and a witness to His power
- What if we all did this?
- Mary ~ Bringing attention to Christ



John 12:3

New American Standard Bible

. ³ Mary then took a pound of very costly perfume of pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.



- Mary takes a pound of pure "nard" What's that!?!
- This gift is described in great detail = God's approval
- It's extravagant and generous and 'over the top'
- How often do we feel like God gives from His excess and we then give to Him like that?



Give/Serve/Love like Christ is good, Savior, friend

What motivates this kind of giving?
Love and belief



John 12:4~6

New American Standard Bible

⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to betray Him, *said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and given to poor *people*?" ⁶ Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it.



- Judas is lost in himself
- There's a Judas in every crowd
- A sign we live in an evil world and no one is immune
- Are you like Judas?
- Seeing, hearing, experiencing so much about the Gospel, but living for yourself?
- You're not fooling God



John 12:7-8 New American Standard Bible

⁷ Therefore Jesus said, "Let her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial. ⁸ For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have Me."



- Sometimes, extravagance is pleasing to God
- When have you done something for God that was extravagant?
- This is one of the unbelievable/believable parts of Scripture
- Who else says that God came to suffer for man?



- Who else says you can't earn your way to God?
- Who can I minister to the way Mary ministered to Jesus, like you won't see them again?
- Speak thanks and love and gratitude today



John 12:9~11

New American Standard Bible

⁹ The large crowd of the Jews then learned that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead. ¹⁰ But the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death also; ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and were believing in Jesus.



- They're trying to get rid of the evidence (Lazarus!)
- Lazarus is like, "Bring it on!!"
- Who/what/where do you need to talk/think/believe like that?
- Verse 11: Belief ~ coming to Christ isn't a leap into the dark; it's a leap into the light

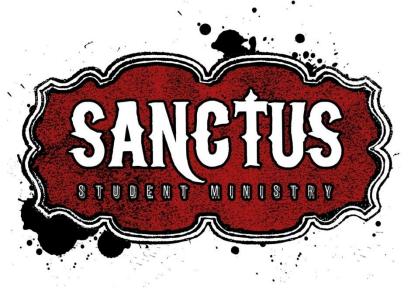


- Which character are you relating to here?
- Lots of groups, only 2 responses: Come and be and become <u>OR</u> reject and live in darkness



- Christ, show me where I can serve extravagantly
- God, show me where and how I can give extravagantly
- Spirit, make me what you want me to become





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