

DYING TO LIVE

8/11/24 | Pastor Reggie Roberson

WARM UP QUESTION: Has someone ever gone out of their way, going over and beyond, to assist you with something? How did you respond to them afterwards?

READ: Mark 14:1-11

FOCUS: The appropriate response to what Jesus has done for us is to lead an extravagantly generous lifestyle that pleases God.

OBSERVE:

- In Mark 14:3-9, Mary gave Jesus an expensive gift. It was worth more than one year's wages. The people witnessing this wondered why she was wasting her resources on Jesus. They couldn't understand. They offered alternatives to the use of her resources.
- Jesus points out that her extravagant sacrifice was a way of preparing Him for His death and burial.
- Mark sandwiches this story of the expensive perfume between a discussion of preparations for the Passover and the plans of the chief priests and teachers of the law to arrest and kill Jesus, making use of Judas Iscariot's offer to betray Jesus.

REFLECT:

- God's extravagant gift to mankind was to sacrifice His only Son, Jesus, who took on our sins and relieved us of eternal death.
- Jesus' extravagant gift to us was giving His life, so we can receive salvation by His righteousness.
- In gratitude, what extravagant gifts can you give, or have you given to God?

TAKE ACTION:

- Take time to reflect on all the Lord has been to you and done for you.
- Determine to be a living and holy sacrifice to the Lord today, living out your life to please Him every day and in every way.

PRAY: *Lord Jesus, I am so grateful You came to die for me. You have shown me so much love and mercy- much more than I deserve. Thank you for always being with me. Show me how to express my gratitude by making my life an extravagant gift to others. I love you Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*