



Mid-Week Devotion  
March 14, 2021

### **Following Mary's Example: *Offering the best we have***

Approximately one week before Jesus makes His triumphal entry into Jerusalem to present Himself as the perfect Lamb for the upcoming Passover, Jesus is in Bethany with some of His closest friends. An interesting incident takes place there in the home of Lazarus, Martha, and Mary. That's the same Lazarus who was most recently raised from the dead after four days in the tomb. As they were all reclining for supper Mary takes a jar of "spikenard" and anoints Jesus' feet with the substance then proceeds to use her hair to wipe His feet. Keep in mind Jesus is the Son of God. It's an incredible display of love and worship Mary has for her Savior. What about the spikenard substance that Mary uses? Spikenard or nard came from the root of a plant grown in India. It was used for medicinal purposes. It was also used by the Jews in the embalming process. And, it was not only incredibly aromatic and gave off a fragrant smell it was also super expensive. In fact, the amount that Mary used to anoint the feet of Jesus that evening was worth in it's time a year's salary for the average worker in Jesus' day. In 2019, the average annual household income was just over \$50,000. What's the most expensive perfume in today's market? According to Uncle Google, Clive Christian's No. 1 ***Imperial Majesty***, created in 2006 and issued in a limited-edition run (as in, 10 bottles) of diamond-studded Baccarat crystal flacons, was named the World's Most Expensive Perfume by the Guinness Book of World Records. For \$5,000 you get 30 ml. Which includes free shipping! Men, your wife will love you forever!! Talk to Mike Davis if you need the website! Mary isn't buying spikenard at the local Dollar Tree. It's the most expensive in her day. Mary is offering it to Jesus as an act of worship to Him. It's the best she had.

The Apostle Paul in Romans 12:1 writes about us offering Jesus our bodies which would include our minds, our thoughts, and even our memories as an act of worship to Him. It's about what's most important to us. It's about offering our best not what's left over. That's our "spiritual service of worship" the Apostle writes. God offered His Son as an act of worship. Jesus was the best He had.

Pr. Wayne

### **Prayers**

Youth and Families Tour to Arizona, March 22-26