

Nurturing Faith...

Every Day in Every Way

April 7, 2019

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalms 126

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8



Fifth Sunday in Lent

How many of you like to give gifts for people? What are some of the gifts that you have made? I think the best part about making and giving gifts is that they are made and given with lots of love, and the best part? Watching people open their gifts!

One day Jesus went to the city of Bethany. That was the city where a man named Lazarus who lived with his two sisters, Mary and Martha. While Jesus was in Bethany, a dinner was given in his honor. Lazarus was eating at the table with Jesus, while Martha was serving the meal. Mary, Jesus' friend, was just sitting at the feet of Jesus listening to him teach.

As she was sitting at the feet of Jesus, Mary did a very unusual thing. She took out the gift she brought for Jesus, a bottle of very expensive perfume, and began to wash his feet with it. Then she dried his feet with her hair. The Bible tells us that the entire house was filled with the sweet smell of perfume.

One of Jesus' disciples, whose name was Judas, was very upset by what Mary did. He said, "What a waste! This perfume could have been sold and the money given to the poor. Judas wasn't really worried about the poor. The Bible tells us that he was worried about the money because he often stole money from the treasury for himself.

Jesus came to his friend Mary's defense and answered Judas. "Leave her alone.

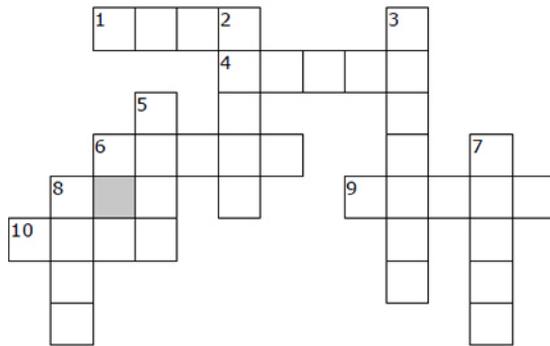
Mary wanted to give Jesus the very best that she had to show her love for him. That perfume was the very best thing that Mary had to offer.

Jesus has given us the most wonderful gift imaginable the gift of everlasting life.

What can we give to Jesus to show our love for him? I think he wants us to give him our very best. He wants us to give him our whole heart so that we can share Jesus' love with the rest of the world.

Loving God, thank you for giving us your very best gift, your son, Jesus. Help us to show the rest of the world Jesus' love by showing kindness to all whom we meet. Amen.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1. The part of the body on which a person stands
4. The building in which a family lives
6. What we use to buy things
9. The disciple who betrayed Jesus
10. What grows on the head of a person

DOWN

2. A person who steals
3. A liquid produced and sold for its pleasant smell
5. The opposite of rich
7. Pay received for the labor of a worker
8. The woman who poured perfume on the feet of Jesus

JUDAS	HOUSE	FEET	MARY	MONEY
POOR	THIEF	PERFUME	WAGES	HAIR

Activity: Using construction paper, colorful markers, stickers and glitter, make a greeting card to give to someone to say thank you for all that they do. Cards are a wonderful way to express love!

Discussion Question God shows us that God loves us every day! God gives us the sun and the chirping of the birds to wake us up in the morning, the shining moon and the music of cicadas that lull us to sleep at night. What other gifts does God give us?

Family Table Prayer for April:

God of rain and God of Spring,
Thank you for the gifts you bring
To our table that we may be
Fed by your hands so graciously. Amen.

April Memory Verse: Psalm 150:6 – Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

Coloring Page



Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet

John 12:1-8

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