

Sunday 7th April – John 12 v1-8

Read John 12: 1-8

Extravagant worship is about our hearts, not what we do with our bodies in worship.

Jesus's reaction to the death of Lazarus in the preceding chapter is stronger than portrayed in modern translations. His reaction reflects the enormity of the situation. Jesus knew that if he raised Lazarus from the dead, it would be the trigger for his own death and resurrection.

The value of the pint of nard was a year's wages – reflect on what this would mean today. Also, Mary did not only give sacrificially, she also risked her own reputation by using her hair to wipe Jesus's feet.

Consider the reaction from Judas. He responds negatively despite being one of the disciples. Jesus had taught them that they should help the poor, and he reflects this teaching in his reaction. But this shows how the key is our heart reaction. It was possible for Judas to know Jesus and walk closely with him but still for his heart to be wrong.

Ask yourself whether your life is about the things you do for God or need from God or whether you are truly giving yourself to God? Are there times when you want to shut the door of your heart to Jesus in certain areas of your life – your time, your reputation, your money, your retirement plan, your family and children?

Pray for each other – break into small groups if the group is large.