

The Lesser Become Greater

Mark 14:1-11

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

1. The author tells us that it was the time of the Passover (v.1). What is the significance of this (see Exodus 12:21-28; 1 Corinthians 5:7)?
2. What do we know about the woman from this passage?
3. It was the Jewish custom not to anoint a criminal for burial. Given this, why were this woman's actions especially significant?
4. Matthew 26:8 tells us that it is the disciples who are speaking in verses 4-5. What does their response to the woman (vv. 4-5) reveal about them?
5. Why do you suppose they didn't understand the significance of the anointing?
6. The disciples' comment about the poor could indicate a kingdom concern for the poor. Did the disciples really have an understanding of the kingdom's relationship to the poor and weak (see Mark 9:33-35; 10:13-15, 23-26)? Explain your response.

7. Why did Jesus disagree with the disciples?

Which of his words have the greatest impact for you, and why?

8. What would be the importance of remembering this act “wherever the gospel is preached”?

9. How is this act remembered in your church (for example, during Communion or Holy Week)?

10. What do you think motivated Judas to respond as he did (vv. 10-11; see also John 12:6)?

11. Why is it that we remember Judas better than this woman?

12. What connection can you make between remembering this act of anointing and our appreciation of the nature of the kingdom?