

LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Mark

LESSON 43

**A WOMAN ANOINTS
JESUS**

MARK 14:3-9

Life of Christ

A Woman Anoints Jesus

Mark 14:3-9

Younger Verse

Keep offering praise to God in the name of Jesus.

Hebrews 13:15

Older Verse

Our sacrifice is to keep offering praise to God in the name of Jesus.

Hebrews 13:15

Lesson Goals

Learn that a woman was willing to share all she had with Jesus
Understand the meaning behind her act of love—to worship Jesus
Recognize that God wants us to give Him all we have

Opener

Do you like to give gifts? Have you ever given a gift that you wanted to keep yourself? Did you give it anyway? We will learn about a woman who gave a very precious gift to Jesus.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Do you remember a few weeks ago, we learned about the woman who gave all the money she had to God? Even though it was only a little, Jesus said it was more than everyone else because it was all she had. Jesus likes it when we have a giving heart.

Jesus was heading into Jerusalem at the same time a special celebration was getting ready to happen. There were many people in Jerusalem because of this celebration. Jesus and His followers were in the small village of Bethany. They were eating dinner at the house of Simon the Leper. Have you ever eaten dinner at someone else's house? It must have made Simon feel very special that Jesus had come. Simon had leprosy, which is a very bad skin disease, and most people stayed away from those that had leprosy.

While He was there, a woman walked up to Jesus. She was holding something in her hands. She had a very pretty jar made of a stone called alabaster. What do you think was inside of the jar? (*If you can, bring something with a nice aroma: perfume, cologne, etc. Let the children guess and then show them the bottle.*) Yes, it was filled with very expensive perfume. What do you do with perfume? What do you think the woman wanted to do with her perfume?

The woman opened the jar and then poured the perfume on Jesus' head! Well, some of the followers there got upset and complained about what she did. They said, "That was expensive perfume; why did she waste it like that? It was worth a lot of money. She could have sold it and then that money could have been used to help the people that are poor."

Jesus looked at His followers and said, "Do not bother this woman. She did a very special thing for me. There will always be people that need help. And there will always be chances to help people that are poor. Right now this woman gave the only thing she could give. She was getting my body ready for death because in a few days, I will be crucified." Then Jesus said, "People all over the world will hear the Good News about Me. Wherever people learn about the Good News, they will

hear about the special gift this woman gave to me.”

So, was Jesus upset at the woman? No, He was not. He was very pleased with her. Jesus knew that in a few days something incredible was going to happen. He would give up His life by dying on a cross and then three days after that, he would come back to life. Back then, people often put perfume on dead bodies so that they would not smell as bad. The woman was giving her perfume as a gift to Jesus before He died. Jesus knew that the woman did this out of love.

Jesus knows that there are people all over the world that need help. He does not think that there is anything wrong with helping other people. As we have learned, Jesus loved to help people and teach others how to love and help people. Jesus wanted His followers to understand the importance of what was about to happen. He was about to make a way for people to be with God forever. He was going to give up His life so that all of the sins, the bad things we do, could be taken away forever.

There are things that you and I can do that would be special to Jesus. First, spend time with Him. Going to Him every day by praying and reading your Bible is very important. Another is doing things for other people the way He would and treating people the way we would want to be treated. If you want to know more about how you could do something special for Jesus or about what He did on the cross, please come talk with me.

Review Questions

1. What did the woman do for Jesus? (She poured a very expensive jar of perfume on His head.)
2. Why did the woman do this? (It was a way for her to show Jesus how much she loved Him.)
3. What did Jesus say when His followers criticized the woman’s act? (He told them to leave her alone, that she was getting His body ready for burial.)

Prayer Time

Pray that we will love Jesus more and find ways to show our love to Him. Also pray for those who need to know Jesus loves them.

Life Application

The story of the woman and the perfume happened just a few days before Jesus was arrested and crucified. Jesus knew that this woman had obeyed God’s will by her precious gift.

God may be telling you to do something for Him. Are you willing to do it? It may involve sacrifice—that means giving up something you want even when it doesn’t feel good or you don’t want to. Jesus sacrificed His life when He died on the cross. It certainly didn’t feel good for Him to suffer and feel all that pain. But He did it for a reason—to save us from our sins.

Are you willing to sacrifice your will for what God wants you to do? It may mean not watching a certain TV show to go to church, or sharing your favorite toy with someone who doesn’t have any. God might want you to help your little brother or sister with their homework instead of playing outside, or helping Mom with dinner instead of playing a video game.

The woman in today’s story could have done a lot of other things with the money the perfume was worth. But she did what she knew was right, and Jesus blessed that gift. You can do the same!

Planning for Lesson 44
Peter Denies Knowing Jesus
Mark 14:66-72

Preschool Lesson for A Woman Anoints Jesus

(Bring a bottle of perfume or cologne. Let kids take turns smelling it.)

Today, boys and girls, we are going to learn about a special gift that someone gave to Jesus. She had a special reason for giving it to Him. Listen to what she gave to Him.

Jesus was with His friends in a small village called Bethany. A huge celebration was going to take place very soon. Many people were on their way to this big celebration.

Jesus was eating with His friends at Simon the Leper's house. They were all enjoying their meal when something interesting happened. *(Bring some crackers and pass them around to the children to munch on as you tell the story.)* A woman walked up to Jesus. In her hands she was holding something. She had a special jar with perfume inside of it. She poured it on Jesus' head!

Why would she pour it on Jesus' head? How do you think this made Jesus feel? Some of Jesus' friends saw this happen and got very upset. They said, "That perfume was worth a lot of money. She could have sold it and then that money could have been used to help poor people!"

When Jesus heard this, He was sad because of how they were treating the woman. He knew that this woman had done something very special for Him. That perfume had meant a lot to her and she wanted to give it to Jesus. Jesus told His friends that there will always be chances to help people. But He would not always be with them.

Jesus told them that everyone would get to hear about this special gift the woman gave. Wherever people hear about Him, they will hear of what the woman did for Him.

We can do special things for Jesus, too. Whenever we do things for other people, that pleases Jesus. Whether we give a toy, a picture, or spend time with Jesus or other people, any of those things are pleasing to Jesus. Jesus knows what we are thinking in our heart. So He knows why we want to do things. Jesus gave us the most special gift ever by giving us a way to get into heaven. After He was put on a cross and then came back to life, He gave us a way to make us clean. Once we ask Him to take away all the bad things we have done, then we can know that we are going to heaven.

Hands-on Activities for A Woman Anoints Jesus

Bring perfume, lotion, or soap samples. Let everyone put a little sample on their hand or foot. Then, think about how each person can show kindness this week.

Draw a bottle of perfume. Let everyone write at least one kind thing that they can do this week. Make sure they take the paper home with them and put it in a place they can see it.

Think up ways to be kind to neighbors on property or to managers or to your parents. Let the kids come up with ideas and try to do them!

Color a picture of the woman and Jesus. Sprinkle it with perfume.

Cover a glass jar with little strips of masking tape. Now paint over the tape with shoe polish to make an “alabaster jar.”

On slips of paper, write good deeds that you have seen the kids do. Hide the papers around the room. Let the kids hunt for the papers. When they find one, have everyone stop and listen to see what kind deed was done. (Idea from Group Publ.)

Keep offering
praise to God in
the name of
Jesus.
Hebrews 13:15



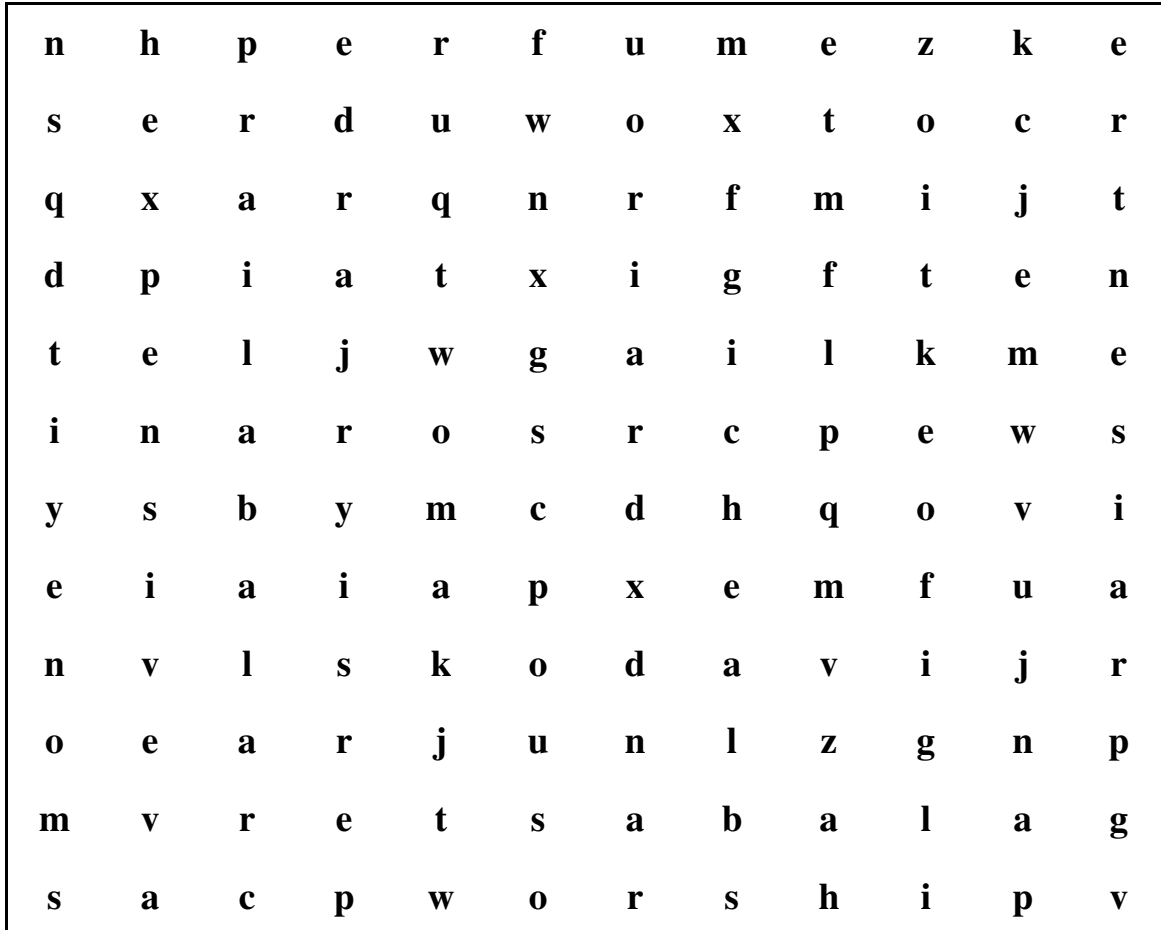
Our sacrifice is to
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Hebrews 13:15



Word Search

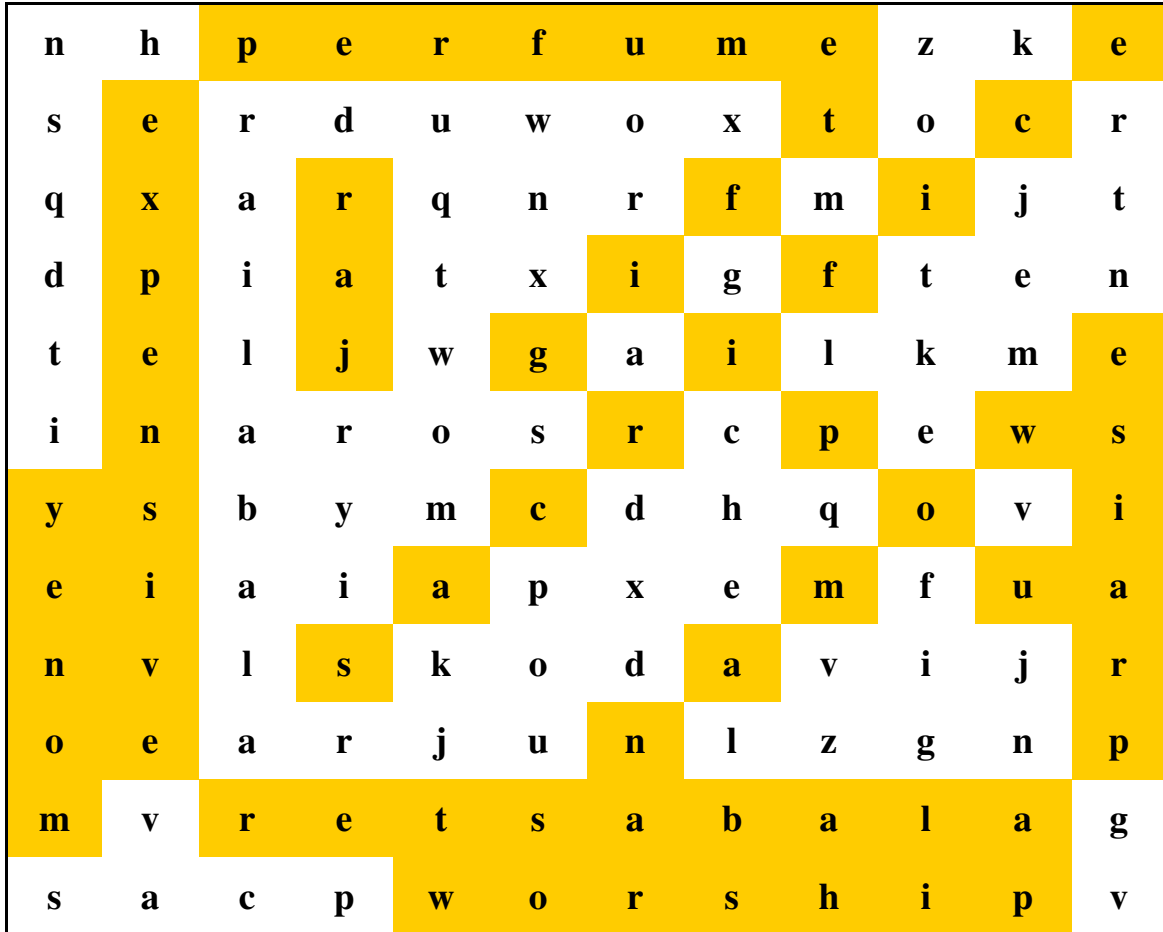
A Woman Anoints Jesus



woman	perfume	alabaster
jar	pour	gift
money	expensive	worship
sacrifice	praise	

Word Search

A Woman Anoints Jesus



woman	perfume	alabaster
jar	pour	gift
money	expensive	worship
sacrifice	praise	

Unscramble the words

rabasleat

mowna

femurpe

pevensixe

Jesus said that wherever people learn
about the Good News, they will hear
about the woman's special

GIFT