Week 2: His Choice the Cross – Something Smells Good

Daily Devotional

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1**: **Psalm 23:5**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

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**Day 2:** 2 Corinthians 2:15

For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.

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**Day 3: Ephesians 5:2**

and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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**Day 4:** Isaiah 61:1

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.

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**Day 5: John 12:4-8**

But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

“Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.”

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Discussion Questions:

**1.** Read John 12:1-8. Why do you think Mary chose to anoint Jesus with expensive perfume? What does this act reveal about her faith and devotion?

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**2.**  Mary’s act was extravagant and deeply personal. What are some ways we can show extravagant love and worship toward Jesus in our own lives?

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**3.** Martha served through her work, while Mary worshiped through extravagant giving. How do you relate to these two expressions of devotion? Do you lean more toward serving or worshiping, and how can we balance both?

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**4.** Judas saw Mary’s act as wasteful, while she saw it as worship. How does a selfish heart affect our ability to recognize true worship?

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**5.** The aroma of Mary’s offering filled the room. How does our worship impact those around us? What does it look like to live a life that “leaves a fragrance” of Christ’s love and sacrifice?

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6. What is one thing you feel God calling you to pour out in worship? How can you take a step of obedience this week?

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7. If Jesus were physically present today, how might you show your love and devotion to Him?

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