

Holy Monday

12 1-3 Six days before Passover, Jesus entered Bethany where Lazarus, so recently raised from the dead, was living. Lazarus and his sisters invited Jesus to dinner at their home. Martha served. Lazarus was one of those sitting at the table with them. Mary came in with a jar of very expensive aromatic oils, anointed and massaged Jesus' feet, and then wiped them with her hair. The fragrance of the oils filled the house.

4-6 Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples, even then getting ready to betray him, said, "Why wasn't this oil sold and the money given to the poor? It would have easily brought three hundred silver pieces." He said this not because he cared two cents about the poor but because he was a thief. He was in charge of their common funds, but also embezzled them.

7-8 Jesus said, "Let her alone. She's anticipating and honoring the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you. You don't always have me."

9-11 Word got out among the Jews that he was back in town. The people came to take a look, not only at Jesus but also at Lazarus, who had been raised from the dead. So the high priests plotted to kill Lazarus because so many of the Jews were going over and believing in Jesus on account of him.

John 12.1-11 from The Message

Have you ever been to an event where something embarrassing happened?

How did you feel?

How do you think the people felt about what Mary had done?

What challenge does Jesus give us in this passage?

How will you respond?

What picture of Jesus are you seeing in this reading?

You may want to write your thoughts about this down.

It is called journal-ing and it is very 'in' at the moment; or you may well not.

Either is fine, after all this is your journey.

There are other readings set for today if you want to read some more.

Isaiah 42.1-9: Psalm 36.5-11: Hebrews 9.11-15.

A Prayer

**I can't share my table with you.....
but I can share a table with people of my time;
I can be like Mary, attentive to their needs
both spoken and unspoken.
I can be like Lazarus
a living testimony of what you have done for me,
impacting people in ways I may not even know.**

**My words, my actions, my attitudes,
can be like sweet perfume
filling the air
and reaching places I may never imagine.**

**Who am I,
how I am,
may sometimes be misunderstood
or ill-received;
I'm happy to share that in common with you
I can't share my table with you, Lamb of God,
but I can walk in company with you.**

Karen Campbell

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