**Follow – Gospel of Mark - Wk 34 – Poured Out**

**Walking with Jesus through the gospel of Mark.**

**The last 2 days. It is Wednesday – the cross if Friday morning.**

**(SUNDAY) – Enters city with a big celebration**

**(MONDAY) – Monday cleanse temple and teaches**

**(TUESDAY) – Teaches in the temple courts all day**

**(WEDNESDAY) – Typically considered quiet…**

**Mark 14:1 Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, (Wednesday) and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. 2 “But not during the festival,” they said, “or the people may riot.” (This was essentially a week-long independence celebration… deliverance from Egypt. More about this next wk.)**

**Behind the scenes they were plotting the arrest and death of Jesus when City was on high alert – extra Roman guards were out. The priests plotting for weeks - they want Jesus dead!**

**3 While he was in Bethany, (Jesus was staying in Bethany with friends – Mary, Martha, Lazarus) reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head. (Was this a flashback?)**

**Similar accounts of Jesus being anointed – Are they the same event?**

**1. At Simon the Pharisees house in Galilee (Luke 7) Early in ministry, unnamed prostitute anoints Jesus’ feet, wiping, kissing feet– weeping.**

**Some were disgusted by her sinfulness**

**Luke 7:48 Jesus said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”**

**2. At Lazarus house in Bethany (John 12) a week earlier (shortly after Jesus raised Lazarus, Sat night before entry) Lazarus sister Mary, anoints his feet and wipes it with her hair.**

**Judas was troubled by her wastefulness of expensive oils**

**John 12:7 “Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial.**

**3. At Simon the Lepers house in Bethany (Matt 26, Mark 14) 2 days before crucifixion - unnamed woman breaks anoints Jesus’ head.**

**Some again troubled by her wastefulness of expensive oils**

**Matthew 26:10 Jesus said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me.**

**Some think the 3 are the same event placed in diff times. I think they are 3 diff events. Sharing similar part but 3 different places.**

**Mark 14:3 While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, (Wow - who is he? Someone Jesus healed – and is now back home? Wherever Jesus is lives are changed - imagine sitting w/ Jesus enjoying a meal) a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. (spikenard – Himalayan plant) She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head. (week before oil is poured on feet - name given as Mary – the smell filled the room)**

**Alabaster jar (tea tree oil) container of very expensive perfume oils and spices. Alabaster is a type of white marble stone – marble jar.**

**One of the few items a woman had as an investment. Often used as the dowry exchange given to a groom’s family. $30,000. It was her inheritance. Her hopes, future, and dreams were in that box.**

**14:4 Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, (angry) “Why this waste of perfume? 5 It could have been sold for more than a year’s wages and the money given to the poor.” And they rebuked her harshly. (Judas a week earlier personally pointed this out when Mary did a similar thing, John 12 this time it was more than Judas - negativity is contagious - they were outraged)**

**6 “Leave her alone,” said Jesus. “Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. (they said it was a waste, Jesus said it was beautiful)**

**7 The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. (not a statement of neglect for the poor – but of the realization that his time is very short. There will always be the poor. Matt 25 – to love and serve them is to love and serve Christ) 8 She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial.**

**9 Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, (what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.” (Jesus knowing his good news would reach the world - and here we are talking about her today…)**

**10 Then Judas Iscariot, (Triggered) one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. 11 They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over.**

**POURED OUT. Let’s Break this amazing story down.**

**This passage reveals human nature at its worst, and at its best. The dark heart of religion and the freedom of surrender.**

1. **Jesus expects no more from us than what we can do**

**Mark 14:8 (Jesus said) She did what she could.**

**She poured out what she had!**

**You are not to be me or sing like them, you are to do what you can do. Jesus expects us to do what we as individual can do. (Mk 12 widow coin)**

**Are you giving the Lord what little or much that you have?**

**I want Jesus to say about me, “Ted did what he could do” We will each be held accountable to that. Starfish beach - can’t feed everyone, but you can feed someone - can’t help everyone, but you can help one.**

**We are not called to save the world – that is Jesus’ job – we are to do what we can do. With what we have.**

**Beware of copout Christian attitudes who live w/ a I can’t attitude. What God asks of you is the same for me - what do you have?**

**Mark 14:8 (Jesus said) She did what she could.**

1. **Jesus the kings sacrifice was imminent (a done deal)**

**8b She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial.**

**She poured out a prophetic announcement of the cross!**

**The 1st anointing recognized his authority and position as king of heaven and earth and forgiver of sins. But the last two during the week of Passover are linked with His death / burial.**

**The pouring out of the oil tells us - Jesus’ blood was necessary and needed – a price *had to* be paid. It points to our sin, justice, & provision. The pour out oil mirrors his poured out blood and burial.**

**When Jesus talked of his death - the disciple denied it and Peter tried to talk him out of it – but this woman responded with worship.**

**Although she may not understand the significance of what she did and what Jesus said… Jesus did.**

1. **Jesus is worthy of no less than our best**

**14:3b came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard.**

**She poured out extravagant worship!**

**Seeing and knowing Jesus – her only response that was grateful extravagant love and worship.**

**It is customary to anoint people with oil when entering a room to show honor – but she did not give Jesus a dab of praise.**

**This was an extravagant display of devotion. She did not wait for others to honor Jesus, or for the approval of others. She just did it. Jesus you’re worthy! I don’t care what others think!**

**\*She did not carry the alabaster around all the time, she came prepared to worship! Her heart was set!**

**We don’t see a lot of love and worship like that very often. When I think of all He has done for me, I know He is worthy of that and so much more. Jesus you are worthy of the best!**

1. **Jesus is worthy of no less than all we have**

**14:3c She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.**

**She poured out all she had**

**This amazing display or worship, love and surrender… was not endeared by others but enraged others. Maybe it was pride - maybe conviction. They attacked her. “What a waste!”**

**Here is a person who loved Jesus more than life itself, but some could only see a budget and wasted worship.**

**She was making a statement about his place in her life. Her entire life savings, her future, her hopes and dreams – poured out to Jesus.**

**Jesus, you are more important than the things I have. “You mean more to me than anything” \*God what I have is yours…**

**Far too many are like the guy who called his girlfriend and said, “I love you! I would climb the highest mountain for you! Swim the deepest river for you! Fight a jungle full of lions for you! I love you! - And, if it doesn’t rain tonight, I will be over to see you.” We often love the Lord like that - when it is convenient. We love Him 9-12am on Sunday. We love Him when loving Him fits our schedule! A long as it does not interfere with our life.**

**Is Jesus more valuable than your possessions, dreams, hopes? Are you willing to give up all you have to the creator of all?**

**Paul hinted at this when faced with the end of his life- 2 Tim 4:6 For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.**

**\*\* She broke the jar - she gave it all – no turning back.**

**Breaking the bottle ensured every last drop was for Jesus – nothing held back. \* Break the jar - Break the ties to your past!**

**Have you given everything to Christ? Are you holding back? Are saving something for the just in case?**

**\*\* They said waste! Jesus said beautiful! It is never a waste to live for Jesus – no matter what others say.**

1. **Jesus promotes the humble and silences the proud**

**Mark 14:9 Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”**

**Humility travels farther than arrogance.**

**So many want to be famous, have influence and notoriety. This woman is forever remembered, and it wasn’t her talents and skills that did it. She found it by simply loving on Jesus and surrendering what she had. We spend so much effort to promote ourself, all she did was die to self.**

**1 Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.**

**Make Him great – and He will give you a voice to the world.**

**Mark 14:10 Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. 11 And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.**

1. **Many who “walk” with Jesus – do not truly know Jesus**

**3 yrs Judas saw and heard the impossible come true. He was in the group, said and did all the right things - but still did not know Jesus.**

**John 6:64, 70-71 says Judas was never a true believer in Jesus –**

**But he played a good game for 3 years. And when given an indecent proposal that met his interests… he took it.**

**What is your cost? At point do you walk away? Money, a relationship, opportunity…?**

**This is the last story in Mark – The first miracle, the pouring out of the wine – the last story, the pouring out of a future hope.**

**What follows are the events of the last supper and the pouring out of the blood of life – on the cross. Incredibly crafted.**

**Next week – the last supper – the final 24 hours begins.**

**Jesus took what this woman did and put it in “His memory box”. Along with the \* The gold, frankincense & myrrh of the wise men. \* Worship of the shepherds.**

**\* Laughter of the healed Gadarene demoniac man. \* Hugs from the healed sick, lame, and lepers. \* Smiles and tears of the blind eyes he opened. The praise of the mute who could now speak. \* The joy of the woman healed of terminal bleeding. \* Cheers of families who’s loved one were brought back to life. \* The gasps and silence of the moments nature obeyed his voice. \* The sound of thousands of hungry people eating… \* The tears of one who is forgiven their sin. \* The shouts of hosanna when he entered Jerusalem. \* The beautiful old widow that gave 2 coins the Temple. \* And – now the broken ointment bottle… He has all this and more in His memory box (read them in the other gospels)**

**He never forgets their love, their faith and their worship. It was the Holy Spirit who reminded the apostles to tell these stories.**

**Who are you in this story?**

**\*The religious leaders - Jesus is a threat to be contained or controlled.**

**Mark 3:1-6, 7:1-5, 11:18 & 14:1-2/ Matthew 23:5-7 & 15:7-9**

**\*The disciples – Jesus is a leader that must meet your expectations**

**Mark 14:4-5/ Mark 8:27-33, 10:3—35, 11:32-44/ Luke 24:17-24 / Habakkuk 3:17-18**

**\*The disciple Judas – Jesus is a disappointment to betray**

**Mark 14:10-11 & Matthew 26:14-16/ Psalm 73:12-17 / John 12:6**

**\*The unnamed woman - Jesus is Lord to be extravagantly worshiped**

**Mark 14:3-5/ Mark 12:28-31/ Revelation 4:11 & Psalm 29:1-2 / 2 Samuel 24:24**

**The disciples eventually understood (and millions of others followed them) they all poured out their life for the cause of Christ.**