

(1) I began the sermon by asking what words you might use to describe your worship of Jesus. Would you say your worship is exuberant, demonstrative, passionate, and extravagant? Or would you say it is measured, calculated, restrained, and guarded? Explain your answer.

(2) The disciples were upset with what they thought was a “waste” (a word Matthew uses in his version of the story) of perfume that could have been put to better use. Jesus called what she did “beautiful.” Why did they have such differing opinions? Are there things about worshiping Jesus that you tend to regard as wasteful, unwise, out of order, etc.?

(3) Talk about the contrasts between Mary’s response to Jesus and that of Judas Iscariot. Do these contrasts reflect the difference between your view of Jesus and that of the world at large?

(4) I said this in the sermon.

True love never calculates. Genuine worship is never measured. Authentic affection never asks, “How little can I give and still meet the accepted standards of decency?” True, heartfelt adoration never asks, “What is the minimum I can get by with and not be thought of by others as holding back?” The heart of true worship is unfamiliar with the word “enough” and utterly oblivious to what is deemed fitting by others.

Do you agree? If so, how might this change your approach to corporate worship on a Sunday?

(5) I concluded the message with the following questions. Answer them:

Is your worship commensurate with the worth of Jesus? Is the intensity of your affection for Jesus consistent with his value? Does the way you worship Jesus properly and accurately reflect the fact that he is the preeminent treasure in all the universe? If someone observed the way you respond to a victory by your favorite sports team and compared that with the way you respond to the beauty and saving grace of Jesus Christ, what conclusions would they draw about your highest priority in life?