

## Applying It In My Life ..... Group time - 20 minutes

1. Why was Mary's extravagance an act of love and not a waste of money that could have been spent on the poor? In what way was Judas's pretended altruism really just selfishness? Which character – Mary, Martha, or Judas, do you most identify with and why? How is this situation relevant to our priorities today?
2. Jesus says that what is true for Him is also true for His followers. In what specific ways is this idea of a Christ follower relevant to you? In what ways do you show that you love your life too much? In what ways is Jesus calling each of us to have a proper perspective on our earthly lives?
3. Jesus' picture of God was big enough that He could openly reveal His troubled spirit. In John 12:27-36, what hints suggest that our understanding of God can still allow us to have emotions such as these? How do you experience these kinds of emotions in your walk with God?

## Prayer Time ..... Group time - 15 minutes

Thank God that in the death and resurrection of Jesus, evil was overthrown and a new creation was born. Ask God to give you a heart that truly believes in Jesus. Ask God to give you the courage to tell others of your faith, even when they might not understand or support your faith.

Finish your prayer time by praying for the needs of those in your *Growth Group*. Take a few minutes to share prayer requests. Ask someone in the group to record your prayers so that in future weeks you can see how God is answering your prayers.

## #JESUS IS *The Anointed One*

### Jesus At Bethany

John 12:1-11

- Jesus was getting ready to GIVE His life as a sacrifice.
- Martha, Mary and Lazarus all loved Jesus but EXPRESSED it so differently.
- Mary gave an extravagant gift of LOVE to her Lord.
- Works without worship are empty and SELF-SERVING.

### Jesus' Future Death

John 12:13-36

- When people go through a CRISIS we see what is really important to them.
- Jesus was GLORIFIED by the humiliation of being crucified.
- Give your WHOLE self to Jesus.

## GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of October 12-16, 2015

### Getting Started .....Group time - 15 minutes

1. What is the most extravagant thing you have ever done to show someone that you loved him or her? How did the recipient respond to your act of extravagance? What were the reactions of those around you who observed your extravagant love?

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**Note For All Groups** – Beginning Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, we begin our *INSPIRED* Spiritual Growth Journey. During this journey all small groups will be utilizing our *INSPIRED* Small Group guide. This guide includes four lessons that follow the weekend messages. Make sure your group gets involved. If you are not in a group, sign up for one for these four weeks. This promises to be an exciting time for our South Shores Church family!

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

### Getting Into God's Word ..... Group time - 40 minutes

**Read John 12:1-50** (In preparation to answer questions)

1. From this passage, how do you interpret Mary's feelings and the reasons for what she did here? What motivated Mary to behave in such an extreme way towards Jesus? What motivated Judas to react so harshly towards Mary's actions?

2. What do you think John wants us to learn from Mary's anointing of Jesus? What does this scene tell us about Jesus and how people responded to Him? What attitudes about Himself, His mission, and His friend's priorities did Jesus express?

3. Earlier in the Gospel of John, Jesus refused to allow the people to proclaim Him the King. But at this Passover, Jesus chose to ride into Jerusalem on a donkey amid public acclaim of His status as King. Why is Jesus willing to accept acclaim at this time and place? How did the Jewish leaders react to the reception the crowds gave Jesus?

4. In John 12:23, the "hour" was the moment for both Jesus and the Father to be glorified. What upcoming events did Jesus tell the disciples and the crowd about that were going to glorify the Father and the Son? How did these events, which appeared to be defeat and humiliation, actually glorify the Father and the Son?

5. According to John 12:37-41, why did so few of the Jews believe in Jesus, despite the many signs that pointed to His identity and mission? Some prominent Jews did privately believe Jesus was the Christ. What issues kept them from publically confessing their faith?