Love’s Extravagance Mark Yr2 Lesson 3

**Lesson 3 – Love’s Extravagance**

**Mark 14 :1-25**

**Day 1 – Review**

1. What challenged or encouraged you from the lecture, and how did it help you in your walk and relationship with Jesus?

2. What in the notes helped you to understand God’s Word, and how did you apply it?

*Background note: The passage we’ll be studying this week occurs during the celebration of two very important historical events in the Jewish calendar—the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. In a nutshell, these recall God’s deliverance of His people from slavery in Egypt. The Lord provided safety and the promise of freedom if the Israelites would believe His word and obey His command to sacrifice a lamb and put the blood of the lamb over the doorpost of their houses. Then, as God sent the judgment of the death over every first born in Egypt, He would pass over their houses marked with the blood, and they would live. The Jews celebrated the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread every year to remember and to rejoice in God’s miraculous and mighty deliverance from bondage in Egypt.*

**Day 2 – Read Mark 14 : 1-9**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson. One possible verse to pray is Ephesians 1:18-19. Father, I pray that You would enlighten the eyes of my heart in order that I may know the hope to which You have called me, the riches of Your glorious inheritance, and the great power available to me because I believe.*

3. From verse 1, what were the religious leaders focusing upon during this time when they should be preparing to praise and thank God for the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread?

4. What did Jesus—who is all-knowing and thus knew of their plots against Him—choose to do during this time? (See verse 3)

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5. ***Personal Question****:* What do you tend to do when you are under attack? How do you respond to persecution or criticism or perhaps even belligerence of other people?

How do the following verses help you bring your thoughts back to Christ’s words and example?

Psalm 23:4-5-

Psalm 27:2-3-

Psalm 62:1-2-

Philippians 4:4-9-

6. Read Mark 14:3-9 along with John 12:1-8. We’re told in John that Mary was the woman who extravagantly expressed her love to Jesus by anointing Him with perfume. Using both passages, what did Judas and some of the others present say about her loving actions?

7. ***Thought Question:*** How do you react when you think someone serving the Lord in a different or lavish way?

How quickly do you judge others based upon outward appearances?

According to I Samuel 16:7, how does God judge? See also James 4:11-12.

***Apply this day:*** *Ask God to show you where you are judging others rather than keeping your eyes focused upon Him. Pray for a heart that increasingly loves and worships God as well as loves and serves others.*

**Day 3 – Read Mark 14: 6-16**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

8. Read Mark 14:6-11 along with John 12:4-8.

a.What did Judas do after hearing Jesus’ loving response to Mary?

b. What promise from others did Judas prefer over Jesus’ presence and loving words?

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9. What did the disciples ask of Jesus in Mark 14:12?

10. **Personal Question:** Judas left and did what he wanted to do but the disciples asked Jesus what *He* wanted them to do. Does your daily attitude toward God more closely resemble that of the selfish and prideful Judas or of the humble and submissive disciples? What difference do you think it would make if each day when you wake up, you’d ask God, “Where do You want me to go today?”

11. What does Jesus tell the disciples to do in verses 13-15?

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12. As the disciples followed His commands what did they find in verse 16?

13*.****Thought Question*:** Sometimes God gives us very clear directions (and we love that!), but sometimes He doesn’t. Looking back at Mark 14:7-8, do you think Mary was told what to do or do you think she was led by her heart? Do you think she knew she was anointing Jesus for His burial?

14. What phrase at the beginning of v.8 beautifully describes Mary’s motive and actions? Even when we don’t have clear directions, how can Jesus’ command in Matthew 22:37-30 guide and encourage us in what we are to do?

***Apply this day:*** *Ask the Lord: “Father, what do You want me to do today? How can I serve You this day? Will You show me someone I should love, serve, and encourage today in Your name?” Then obey whatever He tells you!*

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**Day 4 – Read Mark 14:17-21**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

15. What a dramatic contrast we see between Mary’s act of sacrificial love and the actions of Judas. How does Jesus prepare His disciples for Judas’ betrayal in Mark 14:18?

16. What is the disciples’ immediate response in v.19?

17. ***Thought Question:*** English Reformer, John Bradford famously declared “But for the grace of God, there go I.” The disciples sorrowful question “Is it I?” should remind us that we are all capable of every sin, “but for the grace of God.” What does God tell us we are responsible to do in 2 Peter3:18?

18. a. What did you learn about Judas’ true motivation from the following verses?

John 12:6-

Mark 14:11-

b.Using the following verses, what does God say about this heart issue?

I Timothy 6:10-

Matthew 6:24-25-

19. ***Personal Question:*** God is not against money—after all, the disciples had a moneybag to enable them to function in the world. But what matters, as always, is our heart. Where is your heart when it comes to money?

How does Matthew 6:27-33 help you put this issue into God’s proper perspective?

***Apply this day:*** *Where is your heart when it comes to material needs and desires? Today, will you go to God and confess those areas where you are consumed with anxiety or preoccupied with those material desires? Then every time thoughts of worry or preoccupation creep back in, immediately confess and dismiss those thoughts and replace them with gratitude.*

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**Day 5 – Read Mark 14:22-25**

*Please pray before beginning your lesson.*

20. Jesus teaches about the new covenant between God and man through the Last Supper—the symbolic remembrance of His sacrifice and death that purchased our forgiveness. What Jesus does in verse 22 while the disciples were eating and before He broke the bread?

21. What does the bread represent (see verse 22)?

What does the cup represent (see verse 24

22. What do the following verses reveal about the significance of Christ’s blood for the forgiveness of sins?

Hebrews 9:12-14 -

Revelation 12:10-11, Hebrews 12:23-24-

Hebrews 12:24-

23. Read I Corinthians 11:23-26

a. How does Jesus describe what the cup represents in I Corinthians 11:25?

b. According to I Cor.11:26, why are we called to celebrate communion?

c. ***Personal Question:***  How is it possible to act with such boldness against what you know is wrong but then flee with fear soon after? What can you do to stand triumphantly in the face of persecution?

24. After this first communion, what did Jesus and the disciples do according to Mark 14:26?

25. ***Personal Question:*** What is your attitude after you partake of communion? Do you leave church with a new song in your heart of praise and thanksgiving? Are you empowered by this remembrance of what Jesus did for you? If not, why not?

***Apply this day:*** *Today, specifically spend time in prayer thanking the Lord for the priceless gift of forgiveness and salvation through Jesus’ atoning blood. Share with at least one person how grateful you are for this gift!*

**Day 6 – Reread Mark 14:6-9 (SOAP)**

*Please pray before beginning your study.*

**Scripture** – *Write the verses.*

**Observation** – *Record something you learned from these verses*. *Possible questions to ask for observation: What principle do I learn? What warning should I heed? What commandment should I obey? What aspect of God’s character do I see?*

**Application** – *How can I apply these verses to my life?*

**Prayer** – *Pray to God, praise Him, and ask Him for what you need in response to what you learned. Write down your prayer.*