

Life of Christ

Jesus is Anointed

Matthew 26:6-13

Younger Verse

Love the Lord your God with all your heart. Matthew 22:37

Older Verse

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.
Matthew 22:37

Lesson Goals

Learn that a woman was willing to share all she had with Jesus
Understand the meaning behind her act of love—to worship Jesus
Recognize that God wants us to give Him all we have

Welcome Time

Do you like to give gifts? Have you ever given a gift that you wanted to keep yourself? Did you give it anyway? We will learn about a woman who gave a very precious gift to Jesus.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible before teaching it. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

In our lesson a few weeks ago, we learned about the most important commandment. **Do you remember what Jesus said was the greatest commandment?** Jesus said the most important command of God is to love the Lord your God with all of your heart, soul, and mind.

In today's lesson, a woman wants everyone to know of her love for Jesus.

Once Jesus had finished His teaching time with the disciples, He went to Bethany. He and the disciples went to the home of a man named Simon. While they were there, a woman came to Jesus carrying a jar filled with expensive perfume. She poured the perfume on Jesus' head while He ate.

When the people around Jesus saw this, they didn't understand why the lady had done this. They thought it was wasteful for her to pour all of the perfume on Jesus. They were more concerned about the money the perfume was worth. They said that the money could have been used to help people in need.

But Jesus corrected them for thinking this way. He knew why the woman had done this with the perfume. He told the people that she was preparing His body to be buried. He knew that the woman was worshipping Him the best way she knew how. She gave what she had—without holding anything back.

That is what God wants from us. He wants all of our heart, not just part of it. Jesus gave His life for us when He died on the cross. He gave us all that He had, so we should be willing to do the same for Him.

Jesus went on to say that this lady's gift would be talked about around the world. He said that her story would be part of the Good News story about God's love. Why was her gift so important? The jar of perfume the woman poured on Jesus was probably worth

about a year's wages. She spent a year's worth of work on Jesus in one moment! But she knew that Jesus was worth all the perfume and money in the world—and more.

What is Jesus worth to you? Are you willing to give Him all of your heart, or are you keeping Him out of certain parts of your life? Don't be stingy with God. Let Him have all of you. Then He can use you to do great things for Him!

Invite Jesus to be part of your life by asking Him into your heart. He will forgive you of your sins and give you a new life. He will help you to live for Him and follow His ways. Then you can help others to know about His great love. And you can share the story about the woman's gift and how we can give God *our* best.

Review Questions

1. How did the woman show Jesus how much she loved Him? (She poured a whole jar of expensive perfume on His head.)
2. Why did the people around Jesus get upset when they saw this act? (They said the money should be used to help people in need.)
3. How did Jesus answer the people? (He said that the woman was showing Him her love and preparing His body for burial.)

Prayer Time

Thank God for this woman's example of giving all she had. Pray that we will be able to share what we have with God to help others know about Him.

Life Application

The story of the woman and the perfume happened just a few days before Jesus was arrested and crucified. Jesus knew that this woman had obeyed God's will by her precious gift.

God may be telling us to do something for Him. Are we willing to do it? It may involve sacrifice—that means giving up something we want even when it doesn't feel good or we don't want to. Jesus sacrificed His life when He died on the cross. It certainly didn't feel good for Him to suffer and feel all that pain. But He did it for a reason—to save us from our sins.

Are we willing to sacrifice our will for what God wants us to do? It may mean not watching a certain TV show to go to church, or sharing our favorite toy with someone who doesn't have any. God might want us to help our little brother or sister with their homework instead of playing outside, or helping Mom with dinner instead of playing a video game.

The woman in today's story could have done a lot of other things with the money the perfume was worth. But she did what she knew was right, and Jesus blessed that gift. We can do the same!

Planning for Next Lesson
Go and Tell Others
Matthew 28:16-20

Preschool Lesson for Jesus is Anointed

Bring a bottle of perfume and show it to the children.

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We can show Jesus we love Him. We can sing praise songs to Him. We can go to church, read our Bibles, and pray. This makes Jesus very happy.

Pray and thank God for loving us. Ask Him to help us share His love with others.

Hands-on Activities For Jesus is Anointed

Bring a copy or have kids draw a bottle of perfume. Let everyone write at least one kind thing that they can do this week. Make sure they take the paper home with them and put it in a place they can see it.

Color a picture of the woman and Jesus. Glue yarn for hair on a picture and sprinkle it with perfume.

Bring perfume, lotion, or soap samples. Let everyone put a little sample on their hand or foot. Then, think about how each person can show kindness this week.

Cover a glass jar with little strips of masking tape. Now paint over the tape with shoe polish to make an “alabaster jar.”

Bring fake money from a board game. Hold it up and then hold up a picture of Jesus. Ask the kids which of these things is more important. Remind them that Jesus is the only thing that will last forever. Money will not last forever. We should be willing to share our money, time, and talents with Jesus. Remind kids about the talents from the story a few weeks ago.