

Sermon Discussion Guide

January 12, 2025

Use this discussion guide with your small group or by yourself, to dig into the text and theme of Sunday's message.

Key Point: God wants to be with us.

Life Sharing: (answer one)

- 1. What gift did you enjoy giving or receiving this past Christmas?
- 2. What are the ways you determine if someone is a good and trustworthy friend?

Transition / Open in prayer

3. What are the ways you like to express love and receive expressions of love?

Life Examination:

READ John 12:1-11

- 4. What do you notice about the setting of this story? What are the details listed about the dinner?
- 5. Why was Mary's action offensive to Judas?
- 6. How would you compare Mary's faith in Jesus and Judas' faith in Jesus?
- 7. What does Jesus mean when he speaks in verse 8?

READ Mark 14:1-11

- 8. How is Mark's telling of this story different from John's? Why do you think there are differences?
- 9. Why do you think Judas responded by betraying Jesus?

Life Application:

- 10. Tell a story about someone you know, or you have heard of who did something extravagant to show their devotion to Jesus.
- 11. What are the different "postures" we can have toward God? In Sunday's message there were three shared: Life FOR God, Life FROM God, or Life WITH God. Define these postures.
- 12. Verse 19 of John12 states, "So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!" What did they mean by this?
- 13. A faith based on popularity or curiosity is shallow. What are some ways to move from this shallow faith to something deeper?

Life Prayers: Pray for one another and ask God to help each of you embrace the simple goodness of being WITH Him.