

## #4 Encountering Jesus through Serving John 12:1-11 (3/22/09 AM)

This event marks the end of the Last Months period of Jesus' ministry. According to Mark 14:3 they are in "the home of Simon the leper".

### **Martha Is the Picture of Serving and Mary Teaches of \_\_\_\_\_ of Serving**

#### 1. Serving Involves Sacrifice

##### ***Very Likely Her Most Expensive Earthly Possession***

This was about a years wage for a common laborer or soldier.

- **The quality of my service is in direct proportion to the  
\_\_\_\_\_ of my sacrifice**

The Bible links sacrifice and service together, Romans 12:1-2 and Philippians 2:17.

It may involve a sacrifice of our time, of our treasure, of our prestige, of our pride, of our will, etc.

##### **Serving always Includes Some form of \_\_\_\_\_**

#### 2. Serving Involves Commitment

##### ***An Expression of Complete Commitment***

Mark 14:3, "Then she broke the flask and poured it on His head." Mary held nothing back but offered it all up to Jesus.

- **Devotion to Jesus is revealed through  
\_\_\_\_\_**

1 John 3:18, "Let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed.."

##### **Serving always Involves Some Measure of \_\_\_\_\_**

#### 3. Serving Involves Humility

##### ***Attending to the Feet Was the Task of the Lowest Slave***

This is the third time Mary is seen at Jesus' feet.

- **Mary laid her \_\_\_\_\_ at the feet of Jesus**

(3) "and wiped his feet with her hair"

Jewish women did not undo their hair in public. Paul said of a woman's hair "it is a glory to her" 1 Corinthians 11:15. A true servant sets aside her own perceived rights for the benefit of the one she serves.

##### **Serving always Implies Some Degree of \_\_\_\_\_**

#### 4. Serving Involves Testimony

##### ***Mary's Action Affected Others***

They either saw it or they smelled it.

- **What kind of \_\_\_\_\_ does my life  
give out?**

Our personal service will always have some amount of public impact.

##### **Serving always Affects the \_\_\_\_\_ to Some Level**

#### 5. Serving Involves Difficulty

##### ***The Ever Present Murmur of Dissatisfaction***

These are the first recorded words of Judas in found anywhere in the four Gospels. He was a thief and was actually robbing God.

- **The carnal are always \_\_\_\_\_ by the committed**

The tragedy is that the other disciples were influenced by Judas' negative spirit, Matthew 26:8. Those same sentiments are still heard in the church today. Why do we give so much to Missions?

**Serving always Generates Some Degree of \_\_\_\_\_**

6. Serving Involves Blessing

*The Advantages of Servantship*

- **Mary's public \_\_\_\_\_**

(7) But Jesus said, "Let her alone". Matthew 26:10, Mark 14:6

- **Mary's spiritual \_\_\_\_\_**

(7) "she has kept this for the day of My burial".

Matthew 26:12, "For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she did it for My burial."

Mark 14:8, "She has done what she could."

Mary understood what even the disciples did not yet realize.

- **Mary's personal \_\_\_\_\_**

Matthew 26:13, "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her."

How many of you know someone named Mary? How many of

you know someone named Judas?

**Serving always Includes Some Degree of \_\_\_\_\_ Reward**