

Victory By Surrender: The Gospel of Mark

A study for Community Groups to use the week of August 30th

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** below along with the foundational questions we ask each week.

Week 29: Mark 14:1-11

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

"John added that the woman was Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha, and that she anointed Jesus' feet as well as His head. Anointing a guest's head was a common way to honor such a person at a festive occasion (cf. Ps. 23:5; Luke 7:46). Mary appears in three scenes in the Gospels, and each time she is at Jesus' feet (cf. Luke 10:38-42; John 11:31-32). She is a good model for all disciples to emulate. The high value of her perfume and its expensive container may suggest that this was an heirloom passed from one generation to another."— **Constable Notes**

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

- Jesus says of Mary, "She did what she could" (v. 8). What did Mary understand about Jesus and the moment that others in the room seemed to miss? How did what she believed about Jesus shape the way she responded to Him?
- We see in Mark 14:3-6 that Mary breaks the jar and pours out something incredibly valuable because she believes Jesus is worth more. Where might you be giving Jesus "a few drops" while still wanting to control the bottle? What would tangible surrender look like in that area this week?
- Mary's devotion to Jesus didn't stay private, what she did impacted the whole room and ultimately pointed people toward the gospel. If your private relationship with Jesus overflowed more visibly this week, what could look different in the way you love, serve, listen to, or share Jesus with the people around you?