



PHUMC Sunday School lessons for Preschool – 5th grade.

August 22, 2021 – Mary Anoints Jesus (John 12:1-8)

Prepare to Wonder

Faith Word: Courage

The Bible story this week is about Mary showing courage by anointing Jesus. As Jesus was traveling to Jerusalem, he stopped at the home of Lazarus in Bethany. While they were eating, Mary brought out a jar of very expensive perfume. She then poured the perfume on Jesus' feet.

Mary performed several acts of courage that day. Mary took perfume that cost a year's wages and poured it on the feet of Jesus. After she poured the oil on Jesus' feet, she lovingly rubbed it in. Touching a man who was not your husband in public was not something a woman did in Jewish culture. After she rubbed the perfume in, she took down her hair and dried his feet with her hair. Again, women did not let their hair down in public. Any of these acts could have been dangerous for her.

The act that Judas called out, however, was the waste of perfume. He told Jesus the perfume could have been sold, and the money given to the poor.

Instead of scolding her, Jesus agreed the perfume could have been sold, but what Mary did was of higher value. Jesus knew that he would soon die. By anointing his feet, Mary courageously showed her love and devotion to Jesus.

Much of this story will be above the head of preschool age children. What they can understand is that Mary loved Jesus very much. Because she loved Jesus, she bravely anointed his feet, even if it was dangerous for her.

Wonder with Me

READ the Bible Story

- Mary Anoints Jesus, from John 12:1-8 (*Read from your Bible, see the verses listed below, or see one of the following pages for a picture of the Celebrate Wonder version.*)

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

12 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint^[a] of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.^[b]" ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you,^[c] but you will not always have me."

WATCH the Bible Story

- <https://youtu.be/KIBSpYopG20>

SHARE the Faith Word

Faith Word: Courage – means choosing to act in faith, even when you are afraid.

WONDER Together:

1. Do you think Mary was afraid to anoint the feet of Jesus?
2. Was Mary showing her love to Jesus by what she did?
3. How do you show your love to others?
4. Have you ever had to have courage to show your love to someone?
5. Who helps you have courage to show your love to others?

Spiritual Practice

- **Share the Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book together** (page 26 & 27). On page 27 (*and below*) you will find the suggested Spiritual Practice activity for the week.

Judas thought Mary was being wasteful by anointing the feet of Jesus with expensive perfume. Mary showed courage by honoring Jesus with the perfume. It didn't matter what others thought.

Think of a time you did something super special for someone. How did it make you feel? How did the persons feel? Pick one thing you can do to make someone else feel special.

Pray that you will never be afraid to do what others may consider wasteful or wrong.

Go in Peace

Blessing: Touch your child and say: “May God bless you with courage and strength.”

Prayer: Dear God, help me to share my love for Jesus without being afraid. Help me to take courage and be strong in the Lord. Amen.

Additional Activity for each age group

Select the material toward the end of the lesson that is age appropriate for your child(ren)



Bible Storybook

Mary Anoints Jesus

John 12:1-8

Lazarus, Martha, and Mary had Jesus and his friends over for dinner. While everyone was eating, Mary brought out a jar filled with something very special. Inside the jar was very expensive, sweet-smelling perfume. Mary knelt on the floor by Jesus. Mary dumped and rubbed the entire jar of perfume onto Jesus' feet. Mary anointed Jesus' feet with the perfume. Mary slowly and tenderly wiped the perfume off Jesus' feet with her hair.

This made Judas mad. “Jesus, can't you see how wasteful that is?” asked Judas. “That perfume cost a year's worth of wages! Shouldn't the perfume have been sold and the money given to the poor?”

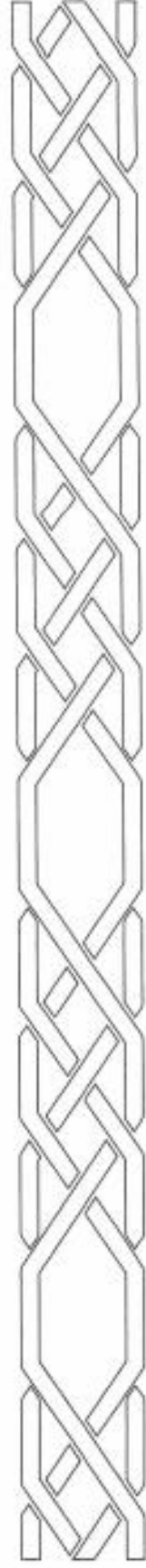
Jesus spoke, “Yes, the money could have been used for the poor, but there will always be people who will need you to help them. I will not be with you much longer.”

I wonder: What is your favorite smell?

Color Sheet for all

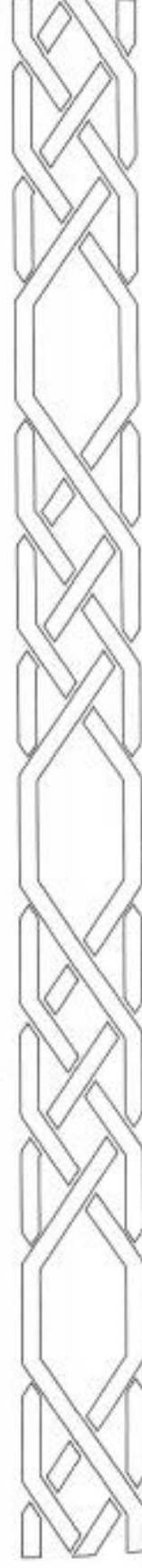


Faith Word—Unit 3



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GODLY FAITH



Preschool Activity

Smelling Scents (Sensory)

Supplies: Vanilla Extract, perfume, or some other item you have at home that smells nice.

Say: The perfume Mary used to anoint Jesus' feet smelled good. Mary showed how brave she was and how much she loved Jesus by using the expensive perfume. Judas didn't think it was brave. He told Jesus she should have sold the perfume and given the money to the poor. Jesus said that what Mary did was right. She was showing her love for him.

Let's smell this vanilla extract (or perfume) together and imagine using it on Jesus' feet to let Him know how much we love Him.

Wonder: Would you be afraid to pour perfume on Jesus' feet to let Him know you love Him?

Be Strong (Music)

If you wish, revisit the song for this month – Be Strong (It is to the tune of "The Bear Went Over the Mountain")

Say: The Bible story this week told us that Ruth and Naomi showed courage and cared for each other. Their hearts were strong in the Lord.

Doing Spiritual practices help us connect with God and help make our hearts strong in the Lord too. Let's spend some time with God by singing the song together that we learned last week.

Sing: Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Be strong! Let your heart take courage and be strong in the Lord!

Say: Our bible verse for the month is Psalm 27:14, the song we just sang. Saying or singing a favorite Bible verse can help us have courage.

Early Elementary Activity

Fill the Jar

Supplies: jar, paper, glue, markers and gems

SAY: Mary's courageous act was a big way to show God's love to Jesus.

WONDER: Can you think of big or small ways you can show God's love?

SAY: Make a courage jar! Decorate with paper and glue and markers. During the week, invite your family to look for ways people are showing courage. When they see an act of courage, have them place a gem in the jar.

Older Elementary Activity

Fill the Jar

Supplies: jar, paper, glue, markers and gems

SAY: Mary's courageous act was a big way to show God's love to Jesus.

WONDER: Can you think of big or small ways you can show God's love?

SAY: Make a courage jar! Decorate with paper and glue and markers. During the week, invite your family to look for ways people are showing courage. When they see an act of courage, have them place a gem in the jar.

Jesus Anointed with Perfume

Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. John 12:3 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 12:1-8

X C Z R Y F S S F K K G C R V
S Q I E U V F G B Y I H P I U
P A N H E E E E J K A Y X T A
H O W O C L P N E J E S U S J
M I I U M Z T E Z T M G T M E
P H P S Q Q N Q L D N A G A V
C S E E P O U R E D Y Z P S J
Q N D O Z F R A G R A N C E U
P O M A R T H A P L Q T P S X
L X F K R G D N S A L H E A M
A J C M A R Y A M Z E I R R M
B N R A C N D B S A Q E F V Y
C V N U C U V D Q R R F U B R
V C H I J E N F X U I L M X D
E X P E N S I V E S O E E G K

EXPENSIVE	MARTHA	FRAGRANCE	JUDAS	HOUSE
POURED	JESUS	PERFUME	WIPED	MARY
THIEF	HAIR	LAZARUS	MONEY	FEET