

She Did What She Could

Mark 14:1-11

I. The Story

- A.** The context
 - Religious leaders
 - Lazarus, Mary, Martha, Simon
 - Disciples and others
- B.** The act
 - A woman
 - Perfume- expensive
 - Pours on Jesus' head
- C.** Response
 - Anger
 - Judgement – a waste
 - Better uses for this value
 - Scolded her
- D.** Jesus' comment
 - Let her alone
 - Good service
 - Opportunity to help poor is here every day
 - This is the one time she can show love to me
 - She could do this and she did
 - This one act will be remembered always as the response to the Gospel
- E.** Judas' response
 - Quits the group
 - Joins the plot to kill Jesus
 - For money

II. Issues

- A.** The people around Jesus and their responses
 - Those who get it and hate Him
 - Those who get it and love Him
 - Those who don't get it and are just with Him
 - Same today

- B.** To call outrageous love a waste misses the whole essence of worship
 - Worship is never practical
 - Always a sacrifice
 - It's not rational – should
 - Always spirit inspired – personal – what can I do
- C.** We criticize other's worship when our own restrictions and concerns are exposed
 - We are jealous
 - We wish we could be like that
 - But we are afraid of
 - What others think
 - It might cost me

III. Thoughts

- A.** Often, the phrase, "she did what she could", is used to mean less than what was needed. But in this case Jesus means the exact opposite. This woman lavished Jesus with this perfume because she could. It was hers and she had the power to use it any way she wanted and she did.
 - She could have been practical
 - She could have used it for the poor
 - She could have invested it for the future
 - But she was motivated by love for Jesus and the transformation He had worked in her life
 - This was worship
 - She could do this and she did!
- B.** How do we respond when we see someone worship in this way? Critical, questioning motives or appreciation
- C.** Are you free to give Jesus whatever you can as an expression of love and worship or are you tied up by fear of being judged by others or fear of risking too much?
- D.** Jesus says the Gospel compels us to do what we can! Just do it!