

14 THE KING'S
ANOINTING

A STUDY OF
Mark



**Devotion to
Jesus determines
direction in life.**



Mark 14

Verses 1-2

Conspiracy by religious leaders to kill Jesus

Verses 3-9

A woman's display of devotion by anointing Jesus with oil

Verses 10-11

Judas goes to religious leaders to betray Jesus for a price



Mark 14:1-2 ^{NIV}

Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. ² “But not during the festival,” they said, “or the people may riot.”





Along with other feasts, Passover functions as an act of what we might call *performative memory*. All of these rituals and stories lead to a thorough sense of identification. This dramatic reenactment of that first Passover is done in such a way as to say, “This is *my* story.” And I live in a different way because of it.

- Grant Macaskill, *Living in Union With Christ*



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Mark 14:3-9

A Woman's Devotion

VERSE 3

The Disciples Reaction

VERSES 4-5

Jesus Response

VERSES 6-9



A Woman's Devotion
The Disciples Reaction
Jesus Response

Mark 14:3 ^{NIV}

While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.





“The four New Testament Gospels tell multiple stories of Jesus relating to women. Poor women. Rich women. Sick women. Grieving women. Old women. Young girls. Jewish women. Gentile women. Women known for their sinfulness. Women known for their virtue. Virgins and widows. Prostitutes and prophetesses. Looking through their eyes, we see a man who valued women of all kinds. Indeed, the way that Jesus treated women tore up the belief that women are innately inferior to men: a belief that was pervasive in the ancient world. We should not be surprised, therefore, that women have been flocking to Jesus ever since.”

- Rebecca McLaughlin, *Jesus through the Eyes of Women*



Psalm 23:4-6 NIV

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



A Woman's Devotion
The Disciples Reaction
Jesus Response

Mark 14:4-5 ^{NIV}

Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume? ⁵ It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly.



A Woman's Devotion
The Disciples Reaction
Jesus Response

Mark 14:6-9 NIV

“Leave her alone,” said Jesus. “Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷ The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. ⁸ She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. ⁹ Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”



Mark 14:10-11 ^{NIV}

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. ¹¹ They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over.



Mark 14:17-18 ^{NIV}

When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸ While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me.”



**Jesus the King is worthy of
our wholehearted devotion.**



**Devotion to
Jesus determines
direction in life.**



Mark 14:22-26 ^{NIV}

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take it; this is my body.” ²³ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴ “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many,” he said to them. ²⁵ “Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.” ²⁶ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.





“Communion is a declaration that involves memory: we remember a particular moment in time, a particular point in the story of the world that is now our story. We play it over and over again because it tells us who we are. We are covenant members, beneficiaries of an act of place-taking that does more than simply excuse us: it defines us.”

- Grant Macaskill, *Living in Union With Christ*

