



Topeka Bible Church
"Wasteful Worship"
Community Group Study Questions
Mark 14:1-11 and selected passages

1. What did Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread commemorate (*Mark 14:1; Exodus 12:11-23; 23:15*)? Why are these festivals important in light of what Jesus would eventually accomplish (i.e. die on the cross and be raised; cf. *John 1:29*)?

2. Why did the chief priests and scribes want to seize Jesus secretly (*Mark 14:1-2*)? What is significant about Jesus' choice to recline and eat at the home of Simon the leper (*Mark 14:3; Leviticus 13:3; cf. Matthew 9:11*)?

3. Who is this woman (cf. *John 12:2-3*) and why is her action questioned by those present (*Mark 14:3-4*)? How does this woman display unhindered devotion to Him who is worthy – Jesus Christ (*Revelation 5:11-12*)? Does this example mirror your devotion to the Savior?

4. Would you have responded like the individuals in *Mark 14:4-5*? The reasons for their rebuke seem valid, don't they (*Deuteronomy 15:11*)? Why then, does Jesus rebuke them for their response to her action (*Mark 14:6*)? Did Jesus not care about the poor (*Matthew 19:21; Luke 6:20*)?

5. What is Jesus foretelling in *Mark 14:8* (cf. *John 19:40; Luke 24:7*)? How could He foretell such an event with such confidence and, at the same time, peace (*John 13:1*)? How are Christ's words in *Mark 14:7* applicable to us (cf. *Isaiah 55:6-7*)?

6. What does Jesus promise will happen as a result of this woman's act of devotion to Him (*Mark 14:9*)? Is the emphasis on the woman or what she did? Now contrast the actions of Judas to that of the woman with the nard (*Mark 14:10-11*). What is the connection between the first two verses of this section (*Mark 14:1-2*) and the last two (*Mark 14:10-11*)?

7. Whose example should we follow? The woman's? The people's who rebuked her? Judas'? What prohibits you from living a life of full devotion to Jesus Christ (*Luke 14:26-27, 33*)? Fear? Concern? Control? Take some time to confess your hindrances and ask God to show you areas where you need to trust and obey Him more fully.

Memory Verse:

**"I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."
(Mark 14:9, NIV)**