



Pastor Scott Archer 06.21.2020*
Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
www.ccclamesa.com

Virtue Signaling

Mark 14.1-11

Series: Getting In on the Good News
The Gospel of Jesus Christ According to Mark

Central Passage

Mark 14:1–11 (NIV) — *1 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." 3 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. 4 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. 6 "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." 10 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.*

Central Thought: We get in on the Good News when we affirm the immeasurable value of who Jesus is, and are willing to "waste" our lives and our resources to honor him and to participate with him in his strategy of co-suffering love as the true path to salvation, reconciliation and the renewal of all things.

The way of Jesus was...

- ❖ An imminent threat to the religious leaders.
- ❖ A shattering disappointment to Judas.
- ❖ A continuing conundrum to the disciples.
- ❖ Extravagantly affirmed by the woman.

Jesus call us...

- ❖ Out of our religious comforts and certainties.

Matthew 12:6–8 (NIV) — *6 I tell you that something greater than the temple is here. 7 If you had known what these words mean, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the innocent. 8 For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."*

- ❖ Beyond our nationalistic ultra-patriotic tendencies.

Ephesians 2:14–16 (NIV) — *14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, 15 by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, 16 and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.*

- ❖ To reevaluate our values and priorities.
- ❖ To worship and serve him wholeheartedly.

Philippians 3:7–11 (NIV) — *8 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage 10 I want to know Christ— yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.*