

Children and family talk for 3rd April 2022

Good morning, everyone!

Have you ever received a gift so good that you found it hard to find the words to say thank you? Maybe you were able to say thank you in a different way – like jumping up and down with excitement, or maybe you tried to do something good for the person who gave you the gift, like helping in the kitchen?

Well, today our bible story is about one of the things that happened to Jesus the day before he arrived in Jerusalem, on what we now call Palm Sunday, and it's about somebody attempting to thank Jesus, let's read about it now.

John 12 verses 1-8

Jesus with Friends in Bethany

12 Six days before the Passover Feast, Jesus went to Bethany, where Lazarus lived. (Lazarus is the man Jesus raised from death.) ² There they had a dinner for Jesus. Martha served the food. Lazarus was one of the people eating with Jesus. ³ Mary brought in a pint of very expensive perfume made from pure nard. She poured the perfume on Jesus' feet, and then she wiped his feet with her hair. And the sweet smell from the perfume filled the whole house.

⁴ Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus' followers, was there. (He was the one who would later turn against Jesus.) Judas said, ⁵ "This perfume was worth an entire year's wages. It should have been sold and the money given to the poor." ⁶ But Judas did not really care about the poor. He said this because he was a thief. He was the one who kept the money box, and he often stole money from it.

⁷ Jesus answered, "Let her alone. It was right for her to save this perfume for today—the day for me to be prepared for burial. ⁸ The poor will always be with you, but you will not always have me."

S: Hello Mickey, were you listening to the bible story?

M: Yes, I was, it made me laugh!

S: Oh, why was that?

M: well, it's a funny thing to do, pour oil all over your friend's feet, and then dry them off with your hair!

S: Yes, it does seem strange, and even in Jesus' time it must have seemed odd, because look at the reaction it gets.

M: why did Mary do it?

S: Do you remember the story of Lazarus, Mary's brother? Jesus brought him back to life after he died.

M: Oh, yes, he was already in the tomb and Jesus told him to come out and he did!

S: That's right. Well, Mary was very grateful to Jesus for bringing back her brother and wanted to thank him, but words were not enough.

M: I see

S: Yes, it was traditional for guests to have their feet washed on arrival, as the roads were very dusty and they all wore sandals, so you can imagine how mucky their feet were.

M: Yucky!

S: So, Mary got the most expensive jar of oil she had in the house, and used it to wash Jesus' feet as a way of saying thankyou.

M: And she used her hair to dry his feet!

S: She did! Jesus goes on to talk to Judas and those listening, saying Mary had done the right thing, in preparing for his death. It was only days away. But more on that next week, as we continue on our journey through Lent.

M: ok, what's Lent again?

S: It's when we as Christians, remember all the things that happened to Jesus on the lead up to Easter.

M: Ooo, Easter, I love chocolate!

S: Me too Mickey, but today, let's think of some different ways we can say thankyou.

M: By sharing things, like bananas!?

S: Honestly Mickey, you've got bananas on the brain!

Let's talk to God now;

Lord God,

May we take the scent of Jesus out into the world with us this week.

May we be extravagant and generous to all.

Amen.

Let's finish by saying the grace together:

And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out your hands as if receiving a present)

The Love of God (Cross your hands over your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (hold hands together)

Be with us all, now and for evermore, Amen. (Bring thumbs together).

Here is a link for a song: Counting every blessing, by the Rend collective

<https://youtu.be/w6Y91axwxfI>

And here is the link for the activity page: [activity-sheet-3-april-2022.pdf \(rootsontheweb.com\)](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/activity-sheet-3-april-2022.pdf)