

How Can the Past Empower the Present?



READ: Mark 14:3-9

³ Meanwhile, Jesus was in Bethany at the home of Simon, a man who had previously had leprosy. While he was eating, a woman came in with a beautiful alabaster jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard. She broke open the jar and poured the perfume over his head.

⁴ Some of those at the table were indignant. "Why waste such expensive perfume?" they asked. ⁵ "It could have been sold for a year's wages and the money given to the poor!"

So they scolded her harshly.

⁶ But Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. Why criticize her for doing such a good thing to me? ⁷ You will always have the poor among you, and you can help them whenever you want to. But you will not always have me.

⁸ She has done what she could and has *anointed* my body for burial ahead of time. ⁹ I tell you the truth, wherever the Good News is preached throughout the world, this woman's deed will be remembered and discussed."

"Give yourself fully to God.

He will use you to accomplish great things on the condition that you believe much more in His love than in your own weakness."

Mother Teresa

REFLECT: What do you want to be remembered for?

What was the significance of Jesus being anointed with oil?



"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely your goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."
Psalm 23

Remember

Gk: mnēmosynon = remember, memorial

Heb: zakar = to bring to mind, keep, preserve, to hold tightly

Psalm 25:7 - Do not **remember** the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love **remember** me, for you, Lord, are good.

RESPOND: What people inspire you to make a difference and bring hope to others?

Dedicating our Place of Ministry (Izaak Walton League Cabin)

Lord of our past, present, and future...
we dedicate to you today our new ministry space.

Build us into a stronger congregation, a stronger witness to your love,
and stronger missionaries to the world. May we continue to open our doors
to our community and open our minds to your transformation.

Lord of our past, present, and future... we acknowledge that everything we
have comes from your hands. We thank you that for the past 14 years,
giving our NewDay Church family the opportunity
to be in partnership with you in mission and ministry.

We ask that you will anoint this place with your constant presence
that it may overflow with your mercy, justice, and grace.
Make it a place where we come to seek you together and be strengthened
to shine the light of your love to all we meet.

From the front door to the basement,
may we be a place of hospitality and care.
Today, we dedicate the whole space to you, as we honor and glorify you.
Teach us to seek first your will,
and then to be stewards of all you have given us,
gifts of time, of financial resources, and of skills and talents.

Believing that through Jesus, you hear and answer us,
we pledge ourselves to join you in the building of your kingdom
through this place and through our lives.
In your precious name, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Respond & Apply: Individual & Small Group Discussion Guide

How is your past experiences with God helping you to live for Him today?

Uzziah became king in Israel at the death of his father at age sixteen. He learned quickly, and had a great heart for God. Says the writer of Chronicles about this man who reigned for fifty-two years,

"He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father Amaziah had done. He sought God during the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God. As long as he sought the LORD, God gave him success"
(2 Chronicles 26:3-5)

Q: What does "seeking the Lord" look like in your life these days?

God measures success differently than the world does. Summarizing Jesus statements it seems that...

Success is obedience to God, empowered by the Spirit of God, motivated by love for God, and directed toward the advancement of the kingdom of God. (Mark 9:35) How is this type of success happening in your life?

*Our greatest fear should not be of failure
but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter.*
Francis Chan

Next Week: Tests that Strengthen You (Matthew 3:16-17; 4:1-11)

NewDay Envisioning Our Ministry Values

- 1. We are a community that has a passion to serve others.**
- 2. We are a community that longs for deeper life relationships With God and others.**
- 3. We are passionate about investing in children, youth, and families.**
- 4. We are a people who have a desire to be led by and experience the power of the Holy Spirit in everyday life.**

FIND OUT MORE... [newdaycov.org](http://www.newdaycov.org)
(Online giving: <http://www.newdaycov.org/give>)