

THE GOSPEL OF

JOHN

STUDENT LESSON

THROUGH &
THROUGH
HONOR CHRIST
IN ALL YOU DO

Open it

1. Has anyone ever done something so nice for you that it has made you say, "you shouldn't have"?

Daily Devotions

Day 1 — Today's Theme: Explore It

Read John 12:1–11.

2. Where was Jesus six days before the Passover?
3. What did Mary pour on Jesus' feet?
4. How did Judas react to this gesture?
5. How much was the nard worth?
6. How did John describe Judas?
7. What did Jesus say the perfume was intended for?
8. What did the Jews come to see?
9. Why were many of the Jews believing in Jesus?

Day 2 — Today's Theme: Giving Your All

Read John 12:1–3.

Jesus is in Bethany attending a dinner in His honor after the resurrection of Lazarus. During this dinner, Mary anointed Jesus' feet with an expensive perfume and wiped them with her own hair. It was a common practice for the time to wash a guest's feet and to anoint his head with perfume, but Mary used it on Jesus' feet. Mary used something of great value to clean Jesus' feet. To clean one's feet is to put yourself below that person, and women in that time rarely had their hair out/down. Mary let her hair down to wipe Jesus' feet, which shows even more humility.¹

In this passage, Mary is giving her all to Jesus because she believes He is Lord after He resurrected her dead brother. She is giving her best and most expensive things to Jesus. Some may say that if Jesus resurrected one of my family members I would give Him my all as well, yet Jesus has given us a gift even greater than that! Eternal life in heaven with Him has already been gifted to us through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross! Try to put that into perspective: eternal life, in Heaven, for all eternity. It's mind boggling that we aren't already giving our all to Jesus.

No matter where you are in your faith, whether you're a new believer or have been around since Jesus' time (like Mario), we each have the opportunity to give our all to Jesus. Ask the Lord in what ways He wants you to give Him your all—whether it be your time, treasure, or talents. We can all find ways to glorify God and invest in His kingdom.

10. How do you see others giving their all to Christ?

11. What are some ways you can give your all to Christ?

12. What holds you back from giving your all to Christ at times?

¹ Blue Letter Bible @ https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/guzik_david/StudyGuide2017-Jhn/Jhn-12.cfm

Day 3 — Today's Theme: Checking the Box

Read John 12:4–6.

In high school, I liked to have my face in the yearbook as much as possible. The first few years, I was barely in the yearbook, so I made it a goal to fill it up one year. On picture day, I joined the Spanish Club, History Club, and the Student Council. Despite never attending a meeting, never contributing anything for these clubs, I was in the pictures, front and center. I wanted to be seen in the yearbook and I accomplished that, but I went about it the wrong way. I did it to look good, similar to how people treat Christianity.

Christianity is often treated like a club that people try to join at the last minute, just to be seen, or just to say they are part of it, when really they are not. I did not speak any Spanish, and if you asked the Spanish Club leader if I was part of the club just because I said I was, she would say, “No.” People who truly don't know Jesus and treat Christianity as a club will be told by Jesus, “*I never knew you, depart from me...*” (Matthew 7:23). If you treat your faith as a label, then that is all that it will be, and it will be misrepresented.

13. How should our perspective of sin shape our response to the evils we encounter in the world around us?

14. How can you live out your faith and make sure it's not just used as a label?

Day 4 — Today's Theme: Good versus Best

Read John 12:7–8.

In John 12:7–8, Jesus says, “*Leave her alone. It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.*” It is important to know that Jesus is not telling us to ignore the poor in this passage. To give to the poor is a good thing! What is most important is that we are giving our best to Jesus! Mary used all of her expensive perfume to wash the feet of Jesus. It was the best that she had. We need to make sure that no matter what we do with our lives, we continue to live with a purpose, and that purpose is Christ. Throughout our days, we need to live for the purpose of bringing glory to God and spreading His word. One way you could do that is by helping the poor, but you can also bring glory to God through your day-to-day life. Live life to give the utmost glory to God! There can be such a thing as serving too much, and getting burnt out, which takes focus away from Christ. Serving done without Christ in mind but just to check something off of a list does not bring Him the glory He deserves.

15. What does it look like to glorify God in your life?

16. What can you do to ensure that Jesus remains the focus of all that you do?

Day 5 — Today's Theme: Ready for Persecution

Read John 12:9–11.

In verses 9–11, the chief priest planned to kill Lazarus, along with Jesus, because many of the Jews were believing in Jesus on his account. We don't know if they ended up killing Lazarus or not, but man, wouldn't it stink to be raised from the dead just to be killed by an angry mob a short while later? Life as a Christian isn't going to be an easy one, in fact (**SPOILER ALERT**) Jesus says in John 15:20, *"If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also."*

Even though persecution is difficult and painful, it's not impossible to persevere through because God is with you and will see you through to the other side. In light of eternity, with God in Heaven, any persecution that you face in this life for believing in Jesus is more than worth it.

There's a good chance you will face persecution in life. As a matter of fact, it is very possible that you already have or are currently experiencing persecution today. It's important that you put all of your faith and trust in Him and look to Christ in your times of need because He knows what is going to happen and is there to help!

17. Why do you think that as Christians we are almost guaranteed to face persecution in life?

18. Have you seen or heard of any examples of Christians being persecuted?

19. Have you ever faced persecution in life? How did the Lord see you through your persecution?