

39. Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet

The Word of the Lord: The New Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

39. Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet

- a) Judas is especially criticized in the gospel of John. Here he is a thief and just wanted the money in the disciples' bag (which he kept) because he wanted to steal it. The four-hundred denarii he said the oil would cost is around US\$1,000. So, you might see why Judas thought this was a waste of an amazing amount of money.
- b) The anointing of feet would happen when people in those days walked far on rough ground. It was soothing.
- c) Why did Mary anoint the Lord's feet with precious ointment and wipe them with the hair of her head? For two reasons. The main one was that she was so grateful that the Lord had raised her brother Lazarus from the dead. Second, she truly loved the Lord.
- d) When the Lord said, "you have the poor always with you, but Me you have not always with you," He was warning that soon He would be taken from them.



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The Lord Warns His Friends He Will Be Leaving Them

Then Jesus, six days before the Passover, came to Bethany where Lazarus was with his sisters Mary and Martha. This was Lazarus who had been dead and whom Jesus had raised from the dead. They made a supper for Him, and Martha served Him. Lazarus was one of those who sat with Jesus.

Then Mary, having taken a pound of a very precious oil, poured it on the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the scent of the ointment.

And one of the disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was about to betray the Lord, said, “Why wasn’t this ointment sold for three hundred coins to be given to the poor?” But Judas did not say this because he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief. He kept the disciples’ purse and stole money from it.

Then Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She has kept this ointment for the day of My burial. You always have the poor with you, but you will not always have Me with you.”

John 12

