

SERMON OUTLINE John 11:55-12:8

Extravagant Praise in Preparation for Burial

INTRODUCTION

CONVERGENCE OF PROVIDENCE

EXTRAVAGANT PRAISE

Mary's Extravagant Praise

Judas's Response

Jesus' Response

CONCLUSION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The two big ideas of this passage are that God's sovereign purposes were funneling all people, promises, and history to a single place, time, and Man and that getting even a small glimpse of that leads to extravagant, holy praise. And the main takeaways are to trust in God through every circumstance and praise Him in the highest.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Who is the most productive and efficient person you know? What is it that makes them able to accomplish so much?
3. What comes to mind when you hear the idea that this passage is a clear example of God funneling all things to a particular time, place, and person for His divine purposes?
4. Is it easier for you to trust in the goodness of God's providence in the hard, easy, or mundane times? Why is that the case?
5. How do you usually express your thankfulness to your family? Friends? God?
6. What is the most extravagant act of love or gratitude you've ever witnessed?
7. What does it look like to be genuinely overcome with gratitude and love for someone in a manner pleasing to the LORD? In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?
8. How about you? What is your first thought when you hear of someone acting in some way that only works if God is real? How do you respond when someone does something in obedience to Jesus that looks foolish by ordinary standards?
9. Have you ever done anything specifically to help the poor? Why/not? If so, what?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

10. Ask one godly person who knows you well to share an area in your life that you might not see very well.
11. Make a list of God's promises (or find one online) and choose one to live more fully in light of.
12. Find a way to be extravagantly generous to someone in Jesus' name.
13. Have a quiet time every day this week.
14. Do something this week to care for the poor.
15. Make a plan to celebrate Advent in a way that will engage your family and honor God.
16. Come up with a creative way to celebrate the gospel of Jesus Christ.
17. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
18. Ask God to show you one specific thing you ought to do differently as a result of this text or sermon? Share that and pray about it with someone in your DG. Continue praying for and checking in with each other until you've both done it.

PRAYER POINTS

19. Adoration. Praise God for being sovereign. Praise God for being good. Praise God for being disproportionately generous.
20. Confess. Confess your mistrust of the goodness of God's rule over your life. Confess a lack of thankfulness or generosity. Confess any ways you have looked down on those trying to live by faith in more extravagant ways.
21. Thanksgiving. Thank God for His kindness in your life. Thank God for working all things for your good. Thank God for
22. Supplication. Ask God to help someone come to faith in Jesus. Ask God to help someone who is hurting trust in the good plan of God. Ask God to help Grace Church to be filled with gratitude. Ask God to fill us with trust in His promises.