

Story of Hope || Week 2 - Anointing

John 12:1-8

INTRODUCTION

Whatever we put our hope in, we worship. This passage fulfills prophecy and is symbolic for what lies ahead for Jesus: the cross. It also reveals what true worship is like. Worship is focused hope. At its max, it is a release of hope that is overwhelming and causes us to surrender all things. For example, some surrender everything to their job. Hope and worship are the foundation of that drive. The problem is your job doesn't love you. It can leave you in an instant. People worship and put their hope into all kinds of things. However, Jesus loves you and will love you no matter who you are, what you have done, or what has been done to you.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

1. We all know someone who needs to hear the story of hope found in Jesus. Discuss with your group the best way to invite that person to an Easter service.
2. Besides going to church, what is your favorite Easter tradition?

SERMON NOTES REVIEW

Looking back at your sermon notes from this weekend's teaching, was there anything said that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

WATCH THE VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zEBhTfnZitQ>

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What is your favorite scene in the Hobbit or The Lord of the Rings?
2. Whenever you place your importance in something other than Jesus, it will leave you unfulfilled. Describe a time you placed hope in something that left you disappointed. What lessons did you learn from that experience?
3. When you understand the love and hope found in Jesus, it should affect your reactions during tough times. How does knowing Jesus help you when times are hard?
4. How would you share your life lessons and understanding of God's love with other people?
5. Mary anointing Jesus with an expensive oil was an act of gratitude for Lazarus and love towards Jesus. How do you demonstrate your hope and love in Jesus knowing He has revealed that same power and love to you?
6. Judas' rebuke of Mary's gift demonstrates the world's misunderstanding of what is important. How do you daily strengthen your relationship with Jesus? Do you start your day by giving it to God? (If you currently are not watching the Sun Valley devotional each day, visit <https://devo.sv.cc/>)

PRAYER

Lord, thank You for the many blessings You have given us. Thank You for being a God that demonstrates Your love and power by conquering death so we may have life. We ask You to remind us to spend time

with You daily. Please help us to be brave and share Your love with others. May all things we do be to glorify You. Grant us wisdom and peace that surpasses all understanding. Amen!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter: Everything you need to know for Easter can be found at <http://Easter.sv.cc>
You can sign up to serve, reserve seats for a service, and find digital invitations to send to friends. You never know what God might do through a simple invitation.