

“Unforgettable: Is That What You Are?”

Based on Mark 14:3-9 (NIV)

March 18, 2018

Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

Mark 14:3 - While Jesus was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.

† This woman is Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus.

† A bottle of nard costs a year’s wages for an average worker (Today’s value = around \$35,000).

Mark 14:4-5

4 Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume?"

5 It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly.

† Life is more than the money spent.

Mark 14:6 - "Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me.

† Jesus describes the woman’s act as “beautiful”.

† This action shows that the true “value” of worship is not in the money spent but in the attitude brought.

Mark 14:7-8

7 The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me.

8 She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial.

† Jesus is affirming Mary’s actions for it is because of our love for Christ that we help the poor and needy.

Mark 14:9 - I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

† The acts of “beauty” that others have done for me is what has changed and blessed my life.

† The acts of “beauty” that I do is what changes and blesses the lives of others.

† Am I living an unforgettable life or a forgettable one?

† The beautiful things of life are, as the MasterCard commercial says, priceless.

Applying Today’s Message to My Life:

† What extravagant gift has someone given me?

† What extravagant gift have I given to someone simply because I love them?

† How am I living an “unforgettable” life?

† Who is someone I cherish and is unforgettable because they showed me kindness, compassion, love, beauty?

† What beautiful, unforgettable thing can I share with someone today, this week?