

An rfour.org Children's Time Message

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Written for April 3, 2022

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Lectionary Year C

**Scripture:** [John 12:1-8](#) [ **Summary:** *Giving Gifts To Jesus* ]

**Supplies Needed:** No supplies are needed.

**ASK** (a.k.a. [The On-Ramp](#))

- Good morning!
- Have you ever heard the word, "Messiah"?
- Can you tell me what you think that word means?
- Those are good guesses - thank you for sharing your thoughts.
- Messiah (and the Greek version of the word, "Christ") means "the anointed."
- To anoint someone is to put oil, a lotion-like oil, on that person - sometimes on their head and shoulders, sometimes on their hands and feet.
- In Jesus' time and place, the Israelites would anoint the person who was going to be the next king.
- Since Jesus is sometimes called the *Messiah*, can you tell me the story of when Jesus was actually anointed?
- That's right - it happens in today's scripture story!

**TELL** (a.k.a. [The Freeway](#))

- In today's scripture story, Mary took some perfume-like oil and poured it on Jesus' feet.
- She then cleaned his feet with the oil.
- It was a very thoughtful gift and was probably her way of saying thank you to Jesus after he had raised Lazarus, her brother, from the dead.
- Jesus was thankful for her gift and said it was good for her to do.

- Even though we see Jesus give so much to others in terms of healing, teaching, and forgiveness, we see far less of others giving gifts to Jesus.
- But that's exactly what we see in today's story. And what an important gift it was that Jesus received!

## **SHARE the Good News** (a.k.a. *The Destination*)

- One of the reasons I like this story is because it reminds us that we - you and me! - can also give gifts to Jesus.
- Maybe that's not something you think about too much, but one of the best gifts I think we can give to Jesus is to learn from him based on the things he said and did, like...
- ...paying attention to God in prayer in the same ways that Jesus did
- ...spending time together in worship like Jesus did
- ...by learning and talking about the Bible stories like Jesus did (including the Bible stories we have of Jesus)
- As we give Jesus this gift of following him, then we receive a different gift.
- When we learn to do the same things as Jesus, we are also learning to receive the same things from God – like God's love, power, and forgiveness – that Jesus received.
- And as we learn to receive those gifts from God, we are better able to then share those gifts with others, in the same ways Jesus did.
- That's a lot of giving of gifts, isn't it!?
- And that's the good news for today. Let's pray.

### **CLOSING Prayer**

**Dear God,**

**Dear God,**

**Thank you for Jesus...**

**Thank you for Jesus...**

**...and help us to do like he did...**

**...and help us to do like he did...**

**...so that we can receive your gifts...**

**...so that we can receive your gifts...**

**...and then share them with others.**

**...and then share them with others.**

**Thank you and Amen**