WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Connect Group Sermon Aligned Discussion Guide.

Series Title: When Worship Becomes More Than a Song
Key Scripture: John 12:1-8
Recorded Sermon: https://youtu.be/Qgo2arvfDzo?si=4mEVPH-va0EqvIzq&t=2486
Date + Speaker: Pastor Mark Scarr – September 1st, 2024

Starter: Have you ever heard of "Podophobia"? Can you guess what it is? Do you know anyone who suffers from podophobia? What challenges do you think this condition would cause in daily life?

Discussion:

1. Lazarus being raised from the dead is a powerful testimony (John 12:1). How can you share with others the ways Jesus has worked in your life? What impact do you think your testimony can have?

2. Martha served Jesus to honor Him (John 12:2). In what ways can your acts of service reflect honor toward Jesus? How can you ensure that your service is motivated by love and honor rather than obligation?

3. Like Martha, how can you actively serve Jesus in your community or church (John 12:2)? What opportunities for service do you feel God is calling you to embrace?

4. Lazarus reclined at the table with Jesus (John 12:2). What does it mean for you to fellowship with Jesus in your everyday life? How can you cultivate a deeper relationship with Him?

5. Mary's act of giving her expensive perfume to Jesus was an extravagant sacrifice (John 12:3). What does it mean to offer an extravagant sacrifice to Jesus today? How can you live a life marked by sacrificial love and generosity?
6. The fragrance of Mary's perfume filled the house (John 12:3). How can your worship of Jesus have a positive impact on those around you? In what ways can your actions inspire others to seek Jesus?

7. Judas misunderstood Mary's actions and questioned her motives (John 12:4-6). Have you ever faced misunderstanding or criticism for your faith or acts of worship? How did you respond, and what did you learn from that experience?

8. Jesus pointed to His upcoming burial as the reason for Mary's actions (John 12:7, 11:2). How does focusing on who Jesus is and what He has done shape your worship? In what ways can this focus deepen your relationship with Him?

9. Mary wiped Jesus' feet with her hair, showing uninhibited humility (John 12:3). What does humility in worship look like for you? How can you let go of pride and fully surrender to Jesus in your worship?

Reflection:

Worship is not about you, me, or those around us. It's all about our wonderful Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

[Starter Notes: Podophobia, also known as pedophobia, is the fear or aversion to feet. It is a specific phobia characterized by an intense and irrational fear of feet or anything associated with feet, such as seeing or touching feet, being in close proximity to bare feet, or even the thought of feet.]