



“Jesus asked” *sermon series*

God’s Questions in the Gospel of Mark

“Why Do You Trouble Her?” Peculiar Responses
During A Peculiar Time. **Mk 14:1-11**

How Have You Been Responding
During This Covid Crisis?

In The News Earlier This Year:

- 1) A Pennsylvania Woman's Coughing Attack
- 2) A Bellevue, WA Dentist's Odd Unmasking
- 3) Three UK Cellphone Towers Downgraded to 0G
- 4) A Locomotive's Loco Motive in San Pedro



Mark 14:1-5

“It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, ² for they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people.”

³ And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. ⁴ There were some who said to themselves indignantly, “Why was the ointment wasted like that? ⁵ For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denari and given to the poor.” And they scolded her.

Mark 14:6-11

⁶ But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷ For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. ⁸ She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. ⁹ And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.”

¹⁰ Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹ And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.

Mark's Narrative Has Reached Its
Crisis Point

First Bookend: Verses 1-2 *“It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, ² for they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people.”*

Second Bookend: Verses 10-11, *“Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them. And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray Him.”*

Ultimately, when push comes to shove, how we respond to Jesus tends to be like the Jewish religious leaders or of Judas Iscariot, who chose against Jesus, or like the behavior of Mary of Bethany, who worshipped Jesus with all of her being.

Observing Each Response For Self-Examination and Discipleship Today

1. The Chief Priests And Scribes

Their Motive: They wanted to protect their own position of authority and control.

Lesson To Learn: We must humbly surrender our agenda and understanding to the Lord and seek His.

Observing Each Response For Self-Examination and Discipleship Today

2. Judas Iscariot

Judas' Motive: Greed and possible anger towards Jesus for not living up to his expectations.

Lesson To Learn: We must surrender our expectations to the Lord and trust that His plan is best.

Observing Each Response For Self-Examination and Discipleship Today

3. Mary of Bethany

Mary's Motive: Desire to love Jesus fully, in response to what she has learned of Him and from Him.

Lesson To Learn: Mary sets the example of always being found at Jesus' feet, serving as a picture of our daily spiritual practices.

How Will You Respond To Jesus When
Crisis Living Becomes The Norm?