

THE RESPONSIVE LIFE

March 18, 2018 John 12:1-11 by Bob Branch
Finding Jesus, Finding Life part 35

BIG IDEA: Being a Christ-follower begins with responding to Jesus and continues in a life of responsive relationship with him. *Disciples are responsive to Jesus.*

¹ Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

1. Jesus invites us into a life of CONNECTED Responsiveness to him.

GRATEFUL FRIENDSHIP

"I do not call you servants anymore. Servants do not know their master's business. Instead, I have called you friends." **John 15:15** NIV

LOVING SERVICE

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for people" **Colossians 3:23**

EXTRAVAGANT WORSHIP (Rev. 4:10)

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

2. We can be responsive to a CAUSE and miss Jesus in the process.

"The king and his cause cannot be separated. But when the cause becomes king, you've lost. The progression matters." –**Daniel Branch**

"Lord, didn't we prophesy... drive out demons... and do miracles in your name? Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you.'" **Matthew 7:22-23** (See Rev. 2:2-4)

⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

⁹ Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, ¹¹ for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him.

3. We can have a CALLOUSED response toward Jesus.

"These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me." **Matthew 15:8** (Eph. 4:18-19)

4. We give a CONVINCED response when Jesus, his love and mercy, have finally become real to us. (Acts 28:24; Rom. 8:28f)