WHAT'S HE WORTH TO YOU?

John 12:1–8

Main Thought

What Jesus is worth to us gets settled where nobody is keeping score. Mary spent what may have been everything she had on him in a quiet house with no audience, and Jesus defended her for it.

1. Where Nobody Sees (vv. 1–2) Six days before the Passover, Jesus comes back within two miles of the men who had decided he must die, and sits down to supper. No crowd, no road, no palm branches. A few people in a small room, and Lazarus at the table. *"Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom he had raised from the dead" (John 12:1).*	**2. She Spent Everything (v. 3)** Mary pours out a pound of pure nard, close to a year's wages for a working man, on Jesus' feet and wipes them with her hair. She takes the lowest place in the room, and she never explains herself. *"Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair" (John 12:3).*
3. Jesus Defends Her (vv. 5, 7–8) Somebody puts a price on it out loud and calls it waste. Jesus doesn't argue the number. He defends her twice, once for what she gave and once for when she gave it. *"Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial" (John 12:7).*	**Key Scriptures** *John 12:1–8 · John 11:32 · Deuteronomy 15:11*

What have you done for the Lord lately that nobody knows about but you and him?

What's in your hand right now that would be hard to pour out?

"The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume" (John 12:3).

The only one who knew what it cost her was the one she gave it to. That was enough.