**“Hope When Everyone Else Doesn’t Get It”**

Going deeper in John 12:1-8

**INTRODUCTION** – Jesus had recently raised Lazarus from the dead. Then this happens.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 1 Six days before the Passover Jesus went to Bethany where Lazarus lived. Lazarus was the one who had died and Jesus had raised from the dead. 2 Lazarus and his sisters made a special dinner and invited Jesus to their home. Martha served. Lazarus was one of those sitting at the table with them. 3 Mary came in with about a pint of pure and very costly perfume. She anointed Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 Judas Iscariot, one his disciples who was even then getting ready to hand him over said, 5“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii (nearly a year’s wages) and given to the poor?” 6 He didn’t say this because he really cared about the poor, but because he was a thief. He was in charge of the common funds and he embezzled them. 7 Jesus stepped in and said, “Leave her alone. She is looking ahead and preparing me for the day of my burial. 8 For the poor you will always have with you. You don’t always have me.”

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. If you had a year’s wages to spend on whatever you wanted, what would you do with it?

2. What do you remember about Lazarus and his two sisters (see John 11)?

3. What do you think of Mary’s extravagance? What would you have said?

4. How do you think Mary felt as she heard Judas? How about when she heard Jesus’ reply?

5. What does Jesus mean in verse 8?

6. What have you done that gave you a sense of personal satisfaction but others might have seen as crazy (going on a mission trip, stepping out in faith to support and be involved in a new ministry)

7. Who have been the people in your life who shown you what extravagant love for Jesus looks like?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Praise the Lord for his extravagant love for you. Ask him to show that love to others that are in your thoughts today.

\*Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you today to be more like the people you know who have been like Mary.

\*Just as Jesus stood up for Mary ask the Lord to show you who are the people you need to stand up for this week?

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Mary faced public ridicule for showing her love for Jesus. How will you show your love for Jesus in word and deed this week regardless of the cost?