**Growth Group Bible Study**

“Encountering Jesus”

Matching Our Love to His Worth

Lesson 9

March 4, 2018

**Reading** John 12:1-8 (Matt. 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9)

**Opening Questions**

1. What is the most extravagant gift you have ever gotten (either from a spouse or from anyone)?

2. What would you say is the most valuable heirloom, antique or special thing you own?

3. Whom do you most identify with in today’s Scripture account: Martha, Mary or Lazarus?

**Study**

1. How does the fact that it is almost the Passover (Jesus’ last) fit with what Mary does for Jesus? (cf. Matt. 26:12; Mark 14:8; John 12:7)

2. Read Luke 10:28-42. What do we learn there about Martha and Mary?

3. How do we describe the “worth” of Jesus as Christians? cf. passage like

 Eph. 1:3-14; Col. 1:13-22; Rev. 5:11-14

4. What made Mary’s anointing of Jesus an “extravagant sacrifice”? How did she show humility and Jesus’ “worth” to her?

5. Have you ever done something of an “extravagant sacrifice” for Jesus and been criticized (school choices, use of resources, career decisions, helping someone, use of time, etc.)?

6. What excuses can we make to not offer “extravagant sacrifice” to Jesus in order to match our love for Jesus to His worth?

7. What makes Judas’ argument (and that of other disciples in Matt. 26:8;

 Mark 14:4) at first sound “reasonable” in John 12:5? What was Judas’ real motivation for his argument with what Mary did? What “arguments” can we make today that might hold back “extravagant sacrifices” for ourselves or other Christians today?

8. In what ways does Mary’s “extravagant sacrifice” mirror God’s extravagant love for us?

9. In what ways does Mary match her love for Jesus with His worth through dedicated service? Does Martha do the same? How can we show dedicated service to Jesus?

10. Do you agree with the statement that “we cannot match our love for Jesus to His worth without complete surrender”? Why or why not? How can we evidence “complete surrender to Jesus”?

11. In Matt. 26:13 and Mark 14:9, Jesus says what Mary did for Jesus will be “spoken of in memory of her”? What does He mean by that and how has it been fulfilled?

**Application**

1. Complete this sentence: “I would like to be remembered for my love for Jesus matching His worth through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”