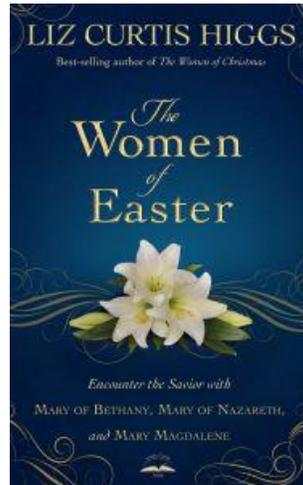


Word by Word with Liz Curtis Higgs on the Faith Radio Network

Bible Study Guide for March 10-11, 2018 | Mary of Bethany

from *The Women of Easter* by Liz Curtis Higgs



1. Mary of Bethany helped prepare Jesus for the suffering to come by pouring out her love for Him in a fragrant and tangible expression of worship. If you assume certain physical positions during worship—bowing your head, folding your hands, kneeling—how do those actions impact you in the moment? Are you more likely to do them publicly in church or privately at home, and why? Describe what worship means to you, then choose a verse in Scripture that captures the heart of why you worship God.
2. In the following passages, note who fell at someone’s feet and what prompted them to do so: 1 Samuel 25:24, Esther 8:3, Matthew 15:30, Mark 5:22, and Mark 5:33. Mary of Bethany sat at His feet to listen, fell at His feet to weep, and knelt at His feet to pour out her perfume. What does it mean to you to rest at the Lord’s feet, spiritually speaking? How might Psalm 62:5, Psalm 116:7, and Matthew 11:28-29 help inform your answer?
3. Jesus personally commended four individuals in Scripture: John the Baptist (read Luke 7:28), a Roman centurion (read Matthew 8:10), a Canaanite woman (read Matthew 15:28), and in this week’s story, Mary of Bethany (read Matthew 26:13). Note that two of the four people were women. What significance do you find in each of His choices for commendation? Matthew 25:21 includes the praise we all long to hear someday. What will those words mean to you?
4. Jesus said of Mary, “With what she had she did all she could” (Mark 14:8 OJB). What could you sacrifice as an act of worship to Him? Would it be a financial gift? A material item? Something of deep personal significance? Mary’s gift was worth about \$30,000 in today’s money. What would it take for you to offer such an extravagant gift to the Lord? What do the following verses tell us about being generous: Deuteronomy 15:10, Psalm

112:5, Proverbs 11:25, 2 Corinthians 9:11, and 1 Timothy 6:18?

5. What's the most important lesson you learned from the story of Mary of Bethany, a woman whose actions spoke far louder than any words?

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