

Sermon Outline

John 11:45-12:11

I. Christ's Enemies Marked Him for Death Out of Fear.

II. Christ's Followers Mark Him for Death in Faith.

III. How Will We Mark Christ's Death?

Application:

What do you love about worshipping God?

How do we experience freedom in our love for Christ? Read through John 11-12 this week. How do you identify with Mary? How do you identify with her detractors? Can you relate to her extravagance in loving Jesus? Why is it difficult to worship in this way? Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to assist you in doing so. Ask a well-trusted Christian friend or two to help you see where you are lavish in your worship and where you may still be holding back.

Scandalous Love

John 11:45-12:11 (Parallel passages: Mt 26:6-12; Mk 14:1-11)

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, ⁴⁶ but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. ⁴⁷ So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ⁴⁸ If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." ⁴⁹ But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. ⁵⁰ Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." ⁵¹ He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, ⁵² and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. ⁵³ So from that day on they made plans to put him to death. ⁵⁴ Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed with the disciples. ⁵⁵ Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. ⁵⁶ They were looking for Jesus and saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think? That he will not come to the feast at all?" ⁵⁷ Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

¹ Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table.

³ 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. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" ⁶ He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

⁹ When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Daily Devotions

Sunday

Read/Reflect: John 11:45-12:11; Psalm 56:1-13. As you read through these passages, ask the Lord to help you better understand them. What stands out to you? What surprises you? What about this God draws you to worship Him? What gives you pause? **Pray:** Thank Jesus for His willingness to die for us. **Act:** Offer to give someone a ride to the evening worship service tonight.

Monday

Read/Reflect: John 11:45-57; 12:4-11 How did fear drive Jesus's opponents? Was their fear legitimate? How does the gospel answer these fears? **Sing: *And Can It Be*.** Praise Him for His greatness. **Act:** Write out some of your fears. How are you trusting God with those things? Reach out to others you know who are fearful.

Tuesday

Read/Reflect: John 5:18-29. Jesus is fully God and fully man. As Messiah He submitted Himself entirely to God the Father. Why would God the Son die for us? **Pray:** Praise Christ for dying to conquer death. **Act:** Help someone through listening to them. How can you demonstrate Christ's love to them today?

Wednesday

Read/Reflect: Ephesians 2:1-10. What was our spiritual condition (in v.1) before Christ? By being identified with Christ we have not only shared His death, but also His resurrection. How are you celebrating that today? **Sing: *Come Ye Sinners*.** **Act:** Remind someone of God's faithfulness. Come alongside a brother/sister today.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Daily Devotions

Thursday

Read/Reflect: John 12:1-3; Philippians 4:4-9. How did Mary, Martha, and Lazarus celebrate with Jesus? How did Mary mark His death? How are you rejoicing? **Pray:** Praise Christ and thank Him specifically for dying for you. **Act:** Invite someone you know to FCCW's worship service this Sunday at 9:30am.

Friday

Read/Reflect: John 12:1-3; Hebrews 11:32-40. What difference does Jesus's death make in your life? Why? How are you marking that reality today? What scandal are you facing for your identification with Jesus and His death? **Sing: Come Thou Fount.** **Act:** Demonstrate your gratitude to God by serving someone else as He has served you.

Saturday

Read/Reflect: John 11:45-12:11. What has God been teaching you through this passage this week? How is it affecting your prayer life? How is it strengthening your confidence? **Sing: Come Thou Fount.** **Act:** The Christian life is one of repentance. What do you need to confess to God and turn away from today? Run to Him rather than away from Him. Ask someone you trust to pray for you in this.