

April 19, 2026



WEEK 33 – THE PLOT TO KILL JESUS (MATT 26:1-16, pp. 259-265)

This week's reading in Matthew 26 deals with the value of Jesus' life as appraised by the chief priests and elders, the unnamed woman who anointed Jesus, and His betrayer, Judas Iscariot.

What value do the chief priests and elders of the people place on Jesus' life? _____

What value does the unnamed woman place on Jesus' life? _____

What value does Judas place on Jesus' life? _____

Note: "The price of thirty silver pieces also appears in Exodus 21:32. It was the price given to a master to repay him if one of his slaves had been killed." (CFM, p262)

Read John 11:48-53. In this passage Caiphas believes the value of Jesus' life is far less than the value of maintaining the status quo. However John declares that Caiphas' words are prophetic.

What do Caiphas' words actually mean and teach us about the value of Jesus' life? _____

Each response to Jesus stems from a different experience.

Read John 12:4-8

What was Judas' experience of Jesus? _____

What was Mary of Bethany's experience of Jesus? _____

What experience did Simon the Leper probably have with Jesus? _____

What was the Jewish leaders' experience of Jesus'? _____

What pattern do you see here and what do you learn from this pattern? _____

When the unnamed woman anointed Jesus, the fragrance was potent. It probably lingered for days. While its use is less common today, the Scriptures and the traditions of the church are filled with references to and positive associations with fragrant incense, usually with reference to the prayers and worship of God's people.

In what ways are the prayers and worship of God's people like a sweet, lingering fragrance? _____

How might the "sweet fragrance" of prayer and worship follow you beyond Sunday morning and into your week? _____

For Next Time:

WK 34 –LAST SUPPER, PREPARATION & WASHING FEET (JN 13:1-17, pp.267-273)