**“Insiders and Outsiders”**

Going deeper in Mark 14:3-10

**INTRODUCTION**

Prior to this we are told the chief priests were looking for a way to arrest and kill Jesus, but because of the Passover celebration they decide to postpone this in order to not cause an uproar.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 3 Jesus was in Bethany, a guest of Simon the Leper. As he was sitting with the disciples a woman came up to him with a very expensive alabaster jar of spikenard. She broke open the jar and poured it over his head. 4 Some watching were outraged and offended. They said, “Why waste this expensive jar of spikenard? 5 This could have been sold for a year’s worth of wages and given to the poor.” They publicly humiliated her for this. 6 But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why are you condemning her? She has done something wonderfully significant for me. 7 You will always have the poor with you and you can choose to help them whenever you need to. Not so with me. 8 She has done what she could. She anointed me for burial. 9 And you can be sure that wherever the good news of the kingdom is announced throughout the world, what she has done will be told as a testament to her.” 10 Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray him.

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

1. Why do you think this woman did this? What motivated her?

2. How do you think she felt as the disciples criticized her?

3. Why would this be more important than doing a lot of good for those in need?

4. What stands out to you about how Jesus stands up for her? Are there people in your life you need to stand up for?

5. How will you anoint Jesus?

6. How is this unnamed woman different from Judas the disciple? What do you learn from her example?

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

\*Ask the Lord Jesus to increase your love for Him and all the people He will bring your way.

\*Thank the Lord that He knows you and stands up for you.

\*Ask the Lord to make you more like this woman by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

This unnamed woman “freely gave” what she had as an act of devotion to Jesus. Judas wanted Jesus to do what he, Judas, thought was best. How will your life be more like hers and less like Judas? How will this devotion and dedication to Jesus be seen in practical ways in your life this week?