**“Broken”**

Going deeper in Matthew 26:6-15

**INTRODUCTION** Jesus has just finished telling three parables about being prepared for the Kingdom of God. The parable of the talents, in particular, emphasized the need to step out in risky faith with the time, talents, and resources the LORD has given to each of us. Then the following happens.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

\*Read Matthew 25:14-30. – Notice the role that risk plays in the parable.

\*Read Matthew 26:6-15

6When Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper 7a woman came up to him as he reclined at the table with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume and poured it on his head. 8 When the disciples saw this, they were furious. “This waste is criminal. 9This could have been sold for a lot and the money could have given to the poor.” 10 Realizing what was going on, Jesus said to them, “Why are you giving her a hard time? She has done something elegant and significant for me. 11You will have the poor with you every day for the rest of your lives, but not me. 12When she poured this perfume on me, what she really did was to anoint me for burial. 13 You can be sure that wherever the Good News is proclaimed in the whole world what she has just done is going to be told and remembered and admired.14That is when one of the twelve, Judas Iscariot – went to the chief priests 15and asked, “What will you give me if I turn him over to you?” They settled on thirty pieces of silver. 16From that point on Judas began looking for the best opportunity to hand him over.

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

1. How do you think the woman felt as she did this and heard what the disciples were saying? What compelled her to take the risk of public embarrassment?

2. Why were the disciples furious?

3. How did this woman’s act of devotion affect Judas?

4. Both this woman and Judas took a risk. What is the difference between her and Judas?

5. Keep in mind God’s plan. How does the woman’s actions point to God’s plan (v. 12)? What do the disciples’ actions point to? Why would this difference be important?

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

\*Thank the LORD Jesus for this day and that He has given you everything you need for living fully today.

\*Ask the LORD Jesus to deepen your love and devotion for Him and for those you will encounter today.

\*Ask the LORD Jesus to show you the risky steps of faith He is calling you to today.

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

The woman risks public humiliation because of her love and devotion to the LORD Jesus. What risks is the LORD Jesus calling you to in your journey with him this week? Will you step out in risky faith and trust the LORD?