

The BIBLE STORY

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **See and smell:** As you tell the story, pour a bottle of oil into another container to help kids visualize Mary's act of worship. Consider adding fragrance to the oil to reflect the story and pique kids' sense of smell.
- **Emphasize emotions:** Use facial expressions and various tones of voice to contrast the worshipful Mary and accepting Jesus with the disapproving disciples.

Jesus Was Anointed

Matthew 26:6-13; John 12:1-8

The time was coming to celebrate the Passover. Every year, the Jewish people gathered together to remember a special event that happened long ago. When God's people were slaves in Egypt, God did great things to rescue His people. The pharaoh saw God's power and authority, and the pharaoh let God's people go. God had used Moses to lead His people out of Egypt and to the promised land. God did not want the people to forget that time, so every year, the Jews had a feast. Many Jews traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate.

Six days before the Passover feast began, Jesus went to the town of Bethany. Bethany was near Jerusalem, and Jesus' friend Lazarus lived there with his sisters, Mary and Martha.

Jesus went to His friend Simon's house for a meal. Jesus was reclining at the table when Lazarus's sister Mary came to Him. She had a jar of very expensive oil. The oil smelled good, like a perfume. **Mary broke open the jar and poured the oil on Jesus' head and feet.**

Jesus' disciples were very upset! They thought Mary had wasted the expensive oil by pouring it on Jesus. The oil was worth 300 denarii—about a year's pay. **One of the disciples, Judas Iscariot (iss KAR ih aht), said, "She could have sold the oil for a lot of money, and then she could have given the money to the poor!"** Judas did not say this because he cared about the poor; he said it because he loved money. In fact, he was a thief.

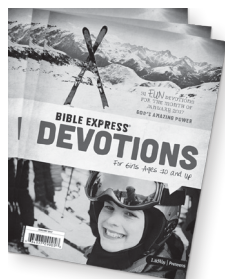
They told Mary that she had done the wrong thing, but Jesus spoke up. "Leave her alone," He said. "She has

done a very good thing for Me.”

Then Jesus explained, “You will always have people around you who are poor, but you will not always have Me. Mary has poured oil on My body to get it ready for burial.”

Jesus said that wherever the gospel was told in the whole world, people would also hear about Mary and what she had done.

Christ Connection: Pouring the expensive oil on Jesus was not a waste, it was worship. By allowing Mary to anoint Him, Jesus showed that He is more valuable than anything. Jesus knew He would soon die for sinners, be buried, and rise from the dead on the third day.



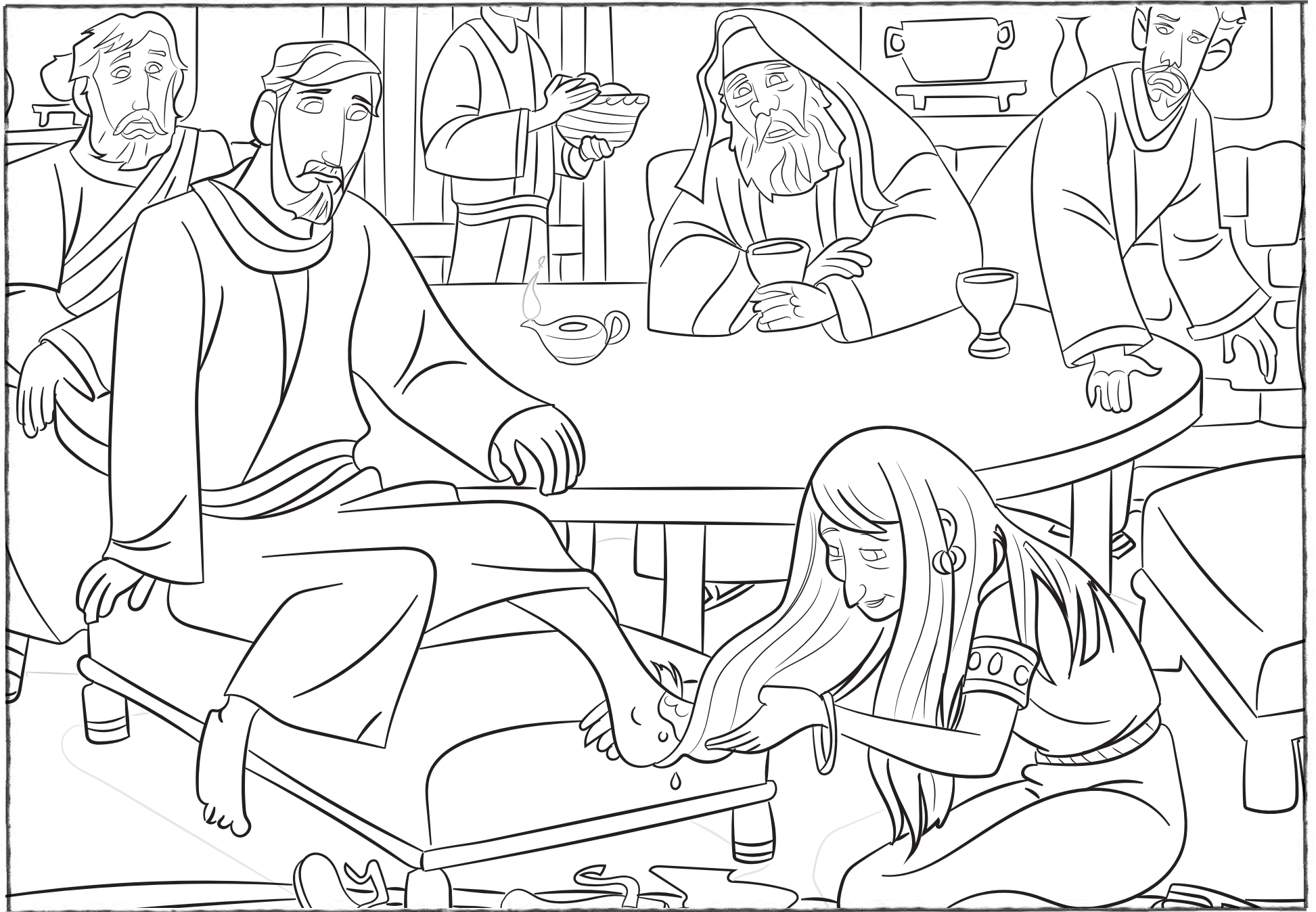
**WANT TO
DISCOVER
GOD'S WORD?
GET
BIBLE EXPRESS!**

Invite kids to check out this week's devotionals to discover how God's Word can help them grow in the gospel. Order in bulk, subscribe quarterly, or purchase individually. For more information, check out www.lifeway.com/devotionals.



**Mary poured oil on Jesus out of love for Him.
Jesus is God's anointed special King.**

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Connect the Dots

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TGP FAMILY APP

INSTRUCTIONS: Draw lines to connect the dots in numerical order.



KEY PASSAGE: Luke 4:18

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Why do believers share the Lord's Supper? Believers share the Lord's Supper to remember Jesus' life and death and to proclaim Him until He returns.

BIBLE STORY:

JESUS WAS ANOINTED

- Mary poured expensive oil on Jesus.
- Jesus' disciples thought her actions were wasteful.
- Jesus said Mary anointed Him for burial. Her actions were worship.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why was it OK for Mary to use expensive oil to anoint Jesus?
- What was the problem with selling the oil to give money to the poor?
- How can we worship Jesus?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Make scented oil with your kids. Warm fragrant herbs and citrus zest in almond oil over low heat for 5 minutes. Transfer the mixture to a lidded jar and let sit for 24 hours. Strain out remaining particles.

Finish the Pattern

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TGP FAMILY APP

INSTRUCTIONS: Look at the pattern in each row. Circle the picture that comes next in the pattern.



KEY PASSAGE: Luke 4:18

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Why do believers share the Lord's Supper? Believers share the Lord's Supper to remember Jesus' life and death.

BIBLE STORY:

JESUS WAS ANOINTED

- Mary anointed Jesus by pouring very expensive oil on Him.
- Jesus' friends thought Mary had done a wrong thing.
- Jesus said Mary had done a very good thing.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- Why did Jesus' friends think Mary had done a wrong thing?
- Why did Jesus say Mary had done a very good thing?
- How can we show Jesus that He is most important to us?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Plan a special family worship time. Make it a big deal with a special meal, decorations, and music. Teach preschoolers that Jesus deserves the best!
- Visit a cemetery. Talk about how Mary prepared Jesus to be buried by anointing Him, but Jesus did not stay dead.



Ingredients

- 1 c. flour
- 1/4 c. salt
- 3/4 c. water with 3 T. removed
- 3 T. lemon juice
- 1 T. cooking oil
- 2 packets fruit-flavored drink mix (for fragrance)
- additional food coloring (as desired)

Directions

1. Pour water and lemon juice in a 2-cup measuring cup. Heat in microwave until just boiling, roughly 3 minutes. While the mixture cooks, mix flour and salt in mixing bowl.
2. Slowly pour drink mix packets into the hot water mixture and stir. Add food coloring as needed.
3. Slowly pour liquid into the flour/salt mixture and stir until it begins to thicken.
4. Drizzle oil over the dough and stir again until it forms a ball. You may knead the dough with your hands. It may feel sticky at first, but as it cools, the dough will thicken and lose the stickiness.
5. Cool the dough on parchment or wax paper. Repeat instructions if you would like to make more than one scent or color dough.

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means “good news.” It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



God rules. Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



We sinned. Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



God provided. Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.



Jesus gives. Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.



We respond. Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

Offer to talk with any child who is interested in responding to Jesus. Provide *I'm a Christian Now* for new Christians to take home and complete with their families.