Hello welcome to our daily devotional the hope of Easter.

Today we’re looking at John 12:1-11 and I’ll give you a moment to have a read of the passage; you can press pause for a moment; I’ll still be here when you get back.

Welcome back. The gospels have slightly different accounts of Jesus being anointed; Matthew, Mark have the dinner happening at the house of Simon a man who’s been healed of leprosy and John’s gospel says it was at Lazarus’ house; the man who was raised from the dead in chapter 11. Matthew and Mark don’t name the woman her anoints Jesus but John says it’s Mary the sister of Martha and Lazarus. Finally Matthew and Mark date the event two days before Passover, while John dates the event 6 days before Passover.

Now before you throw your Bible out the window I think there’s a fairly simple explanation and that is that John is describing a dinner that happened at Lazarus house 6 days before Passover while Matthew and Mark are describing a different dinner that happened 2 days before the Passover. If you’re locked up at home and have plenty of time on your hands you can read the different accounts and make up your own mind.

I’m focusing on John’s account in John chapter 12 which is a dinner at Lazarus’ house now what a party that would be. Lazarus in John 11 was dead and buried and Jesus brings him back to life. If I were Lazarus I would be living it up; I would have a 2nd helping of dessert; I would have a glass of wine, I wouldn’t bother having a diet coke. Lazarus had two sisters Mary and Martha. We see that Martha is busy serving as she was in Luke 10; that’s Martha; that’s her thing. Mary in Luke 10 was sitting at the feet of Jesus listening to his teaching. Mary in John 12 as an expression of her worship brings a twelve-ounce jar which was worth a years wages and anoints Jesus’ feet with it.

Judas who very soon will betray Jesus; sees this as a waste of money and says this money could have been used to help the poor but John tells us in verse 6 that Judas didn’t really care about the poor; he was a thief and because he was the treasurer he stole some of the money for himself.

But still Judas has a point; a years’ wages. Like can anyone afford to give up a years’ wages? Some of you have had to consider things like that in recent days.

This is an extravagant gift to prepare Jesus for his death and burial. And it tells us something about Mary’s heart toward Jesus. Consider the contrast between Judas and Mary.

We know that Judas loves money more than Jesus. He was willing to betray Jesus for money. But Mary is the opposite she loves Jesus so much that she’s willing to give away her wealth in an act of worship.

I’m not suggesting you empty your bank accounts but I am inviting you to think about what worship looks like, especially in this season of our lives.

Jesus was everything to Mary and this is reflected in her generous worship. In these unsettling times does Jesus mean everything to you? Is God who your relying on completely and wholeheartedly at this time?

Is he everything or is he merely a part of your life?

You don’t have to be rich to worship Jesus’ extravagantly; in Luke 21 Jesus commends a poor widow who gave a few coins. What does Jesus he wants worship that’s wholehearted. He wants all of you.