

Discussion Guide

A Grateful Life
September 13/14, 2025

PART 1: RECAP. HAVE SOMEONE READ THIS OUT LOUD.

This past week we read through Mark 13, where we learned about the hope that Jesus will return one day and make everything right again. This week we are starting Mark 14. This chapter begins with two different stories that can help us understand that gratefulness and worship are how we overcome pride and selfishness.

- Do you enjoy gift-giving or gift-receiving? Would you consider yourself good at giving gifts?

PART 2: HAVE SOMEONE READ MARK 14:1-11 OUT LOUD. ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS AS A GROUP.

- How do Judas' actions contrast with the woman's devotion?
- Why did some view the woman's action as a "waste," and why was it not a waste in Jesus's eyes?
- What does this passage tell us about God's heart and his desire for authentic relationships with people?



PART 3: REFLECT. DISCUSS THESE QUESTIONS AS A GROUP.

- In what ways can greed, disappointment, or unmet expectations tempt us to turn away from Jesus?
- In what ways do we sometimes “sell out” Jesus for lesser things in our own lives? When we do this, how does it affect our faith and everyday life?
- How does this passage challenge you to examine your own heart and motivations in following Christ?

PART 4: MEMORY VERSE

Mark 14:6-7

“But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me.”

PART 5: NEXT STEPS

- I want to begin an authentic relationship with Jesus today.
- I will practice gratitude this week by _____.
- I will ask God to show me the selfishness and pride in my own heart.
- I will pray for God to help me cultivate a heart of worship.

