

Day 10

“Leave her alone. She has done a noble thing for me” (Matthew 26:10, CSB).

While Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, a woman named Mary, the sister of Lazarus, came to Him with an alabaster jar of expensive perfume. As Jesus reclined at the table, Mary boldly poured the ointment on Him. Though it may have felt small, the perfume was costly, representing great sacrifice. Mary’s action was intentional, wholehearted, and found in her deep love for Jesus.

Mary’s faith was displayed through her boldness. She approached Jesus with confidence, not hesitation. Her act of worship showed complete surrender as she poured out something precious, symbolizing her willingness to give her whole life to Him. In many ways, this mirrors boldness in prayer. Bold prayer does not hold back. It comes before Jesus believing He is worthy, entrusts everything into His hands, and drives us to take bold actions.

Her actions were immediately criticized by the disciples. They argued that the perfume could have been sold and the money given to the poor. While caring for the poor is good, their response revealed misplaced priorities. They judged Mary’s obedience through their own expectations of ministry. What God had called Mary to do did not make sense to them. Jesus defended her, seeing her heart and calling her act noble.

Mary’s devotion reminds us that boldness in faith and prayer means choosing obedience to Christ over the approval of others. At times, following Jesus will look impractical or excessive. Yet, bold prayer trusts God enough to obey even when the outcome is unclear or misunderstood.

Jesus was pleased by Mary because her worship flowed from faith. She believed who He was and responded without reservation. Nothing stopped her from honoring Him, not even public judgment. In the same way, God calls us to surrender all that we are and all that we have, to follow Him boldly in prayer and action.

In which area of your life is God calling you to act boldly in faith, even if others may not understand?

God, give me a bold and surrendered heart in prayer, that I would trust You fully and follow You faithfully without fear of others’ opinions.