



The Alabaster Jar: Sacrifice...

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Series Title: The Story Continues...

Sunday, March 2, 2008

[Mark 14:1-9 NIV](#)

Simon- "Look at my skin...I had leprosy. No one would associate with me. I was unclean...But Jesus changed my life."

Peter- "I was a nobody-a rough, foul mouthed fisherman. But Jesus changed my life. Oh by the way, did I ever tell you boys about the time I walked on water?"

Lazarus- "Yeah you guys have great stories, but man I was dead for four days. Talk about life change, He called my name and I came back to life..."

She gave her hope and her future. She gave her greatest earthly treasure. She gave her reputation. And she gave herself in humble devotion, commitment and worship to Jesus Christ.

[John 12:3 CEV](#) "...and the sweet smell of the perfume filled the house."

What a waste...

[Mark 14:4-5 CEV](#)

"How much did it cost?"

What's your perspective on Jesus? What is your perspective on sacrifice?

To family
To friends
To the world
To follow to Him

What an investment...

[Mark 14:6-7 NLT](#)

Your investment will determine your impact.

Growing families...
Growing friendships...
Growing marriages...

What a memory...

[Mark 14:8-9 NIV](#)

December 7, 1941
November 22, 1963
September 11, 2001

"They probably think that they've just voted in a totally pagan pastor..."

How about the day you gave your life to Christ...
How about the day you were baptized...
How about the day you dedicated your children to the Lord...
How about the time you and your family did something extravagant...

How about the time you surprised your spouse with a getaway- just the two of you and it was a get away for a lifetime...

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider Freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness.

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.

We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbor. We conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things.

We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more, but learn less. We plan more, but accomplish less. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less and less.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, big men and small character, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes but more divorce, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete...

Remember; spend some time with your loved ones, because they are not going to be around forever.

Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side.

Remember, to give a warm hug to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart and it doesn't cost a cent.

Remember, to say, "I love you" to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all mean it. A kiss and an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you.

Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again.

Give time to love, give time to speak! And give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.

To the garden of Gethsemane where He prayed and cried in agony before He died. It would go to the court of the High Priest and into the presence of Pontius Pilate. It would go to the place where He was whipped and beaten. Maybe that perfume would even be on the hands of those who gambled for His clothes at the foot of the cross...

[Luke 9:23-24 NLT](#)

Mind
Heart
Family
Career
Marriage
Friendships
Money
Body
Future...