

**St Mary's Small Group Study Notes**  
**Week commencing Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2009**  
**Theme: "Anointing the King"**  
***Based on John 12: 1-11***

This is a beautiful record of Mary, sister of Martha and Lazarus (see Jn.11:38-44), expressing a deep love and devotion to Jesus as Lord of lords and King of kings.

Look up the following references on anointing and briefly discuss their relevance.

- Kings : Judges 9:8; 2 Samuel.2:4; 1 Kings.1:34.
- Priests : Exodus 28:41.

The anointing that Mary gave Jesus is not of oil, but an expensive perfume, and on his feet not his head.

1.

a) How might you have felt seeing Mary's extravagance, if attending that same dinner party ?

b) After discussing 1a, look up Matthew 10:38 and Mark 8:34. What, if anything do these readings add to your discussion?

2. Mary's actions are very significant. Discuss what is significant about each of the following:

*(Follow up any cross references and notes in your bibles.)*

- the cost of the perfume/anointing
- the place of the body that was anointed
- the overall attitude of Mary
- the prophetic act

Martha and Mary were both serving Jesus in very different and significant ways.

Cultures and times have changed. The talk on Sunday closed with the following question. How would you respond?

3. "Would the people of Ferndown miss us if we, as a church, ceased to exist? "How ?"
4. How can we as a church be significant for the people of Ferndown?
5. What difference could your group make in expressing God's love?
6. Is there any area you have identified that your group, or any individuals in it, would like to find out more about and what are your plans to follow this up?

Spend some time praying for the people of Ferndown and their various needs (even though we may not know their needs); and for the whole of St Marys' people, including our leaders.