

Portrait of a Life Poured Out

John 12:1-50

Bethany Assembly of God

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Central Proposition: You should pour out your life on Jesus.

Introduction

From very early in our series through the Gospel of John, we've heard Jesus refer to a specific moment that was coming. All the signs that Jesus offered are now complete. His public ministry is in its last chapter. In John 12:23, Jesus tells His disciples and the crowd around Him, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." This is the moment of Jesus' glory. Jesus will be glorified in a totally unexpected way. He will be lifted up on a cross. Only after that will He be lifted up out of the grave and then, lifted up to the Father. Now that that hour has come and the last week of Jesus' life is here, the meaning of belief in Him seems to become even more focused and as the purpose of Jesus' life becomes clearer, the meaning of discipleship also gets sharper. We're going to consider **four traits of a life poured out on Jesus.**

1. Worship Him with everything. See John 12:1-11.

Jesus is back in Bethany where He raised Lazarus from the dead and, at a meal given in His honor, Mary does something extravagant. In our service and worship of Jesus, let us offer it with sincere hearts and with everything we've got. No gift is too precious for Jesus who died for us. And in whatever gift you're giving, in whatever worship you're offering, have Mary's attitude of surrender and humility and extravagance. And be careful not to judge the motives of others who are trying to pour their lives out on Jesus.

2. Submit your expectations to Him. See John 12:12-19.

We know the people expected Jesus to give them political and military victory. Here, the Jewish people offer to make Him their King, but Jesus knew that God was going to make Him King in a way that they could not. So Jesus humbly enters Jerusalem not to make war, but to make peace with God. A life poured out for Jesus is a life that rides a mule; it's someone who submits their expectations for a good life to God and allows Him to define "good." The reason you can pour life out like that is because Jesus did it first, so you know that if you follow Him in trust and surrender, He'll give you real life.

3. Replace belief in self with belief in Him. See John 12:20-36.

Salvation is not religious repetition, it's not a hand you raise, or just a prayer, or a title you claim, a sticker you slap on an otherwise unchanged life. Salvation is being born again. It's being born of the Spirit. It is the replacement of life lived for self with life lived for Jesus. A life poured out is about serving and following Jesus. Going where He goes and doing what He does. When you follow Jesus, you adopt His goals as yours.

4. Follow Him even when others don't. See John 12:36-50.

Some authorities believed Jesus, but they were afraid to admit it because of their fear of other people. C. H. Spurgeon wrote, "*You will never glory in God till first of all God has killed your glorying in yourself.*" If you haven't poured out your life on Jesus then the fear of other people and their unbelief will always keep

you from following Him. But if you've poured out your life, if you've determined that you'd rather please God than people, if you've died to self and replaced it with Jesus, then you'll follow Him even when others don't.