

THE BIG IDEA: Our breakthrough is on the other side of our brokenness.

The Take-Off

What an historic weekend this has been - a ribbon cutting, open house, our Grand Opening this morning, AND our church celebrates 7 years as a church.

To celebrate, I'm going to give you the shortest sermon introduction in history.

That was it.

Turn to **Mark 14:3-9** and let's jump in.

1. What others call a waste, Jesus calls beautiful

- a. We're so quick to make judgement calls about the value of a life, aren't we?
- b. The successful business woman has made it, but the man on the corner with the sign hasn't
- c. But look at who is in this story
- d. Simon the LEPER and a WOMAN
- e. And Jesus is comfortable around them / He reclines at the table
- f. Matthew 11:19 / Jesus was called a friend of sinners
- g. How about us?
- h. Many of us may be more friendly with sin than with sinners
- i. You may be sitting here today thinking you're too far gone, that Jesus would never even look your way
- j. And you'd be dead wrong! He was at home around people others didn't want around.
- k. Jesus accepts what man rejects.
- l. **What others call a waste, Jesus calls beautiful!**

2. It's not what; it's no matter what

- a. Speaking of that woman, can we take a deeper look into what she did and what it led to?
- b. Verse 3 / Jesus is reclining at the table of a former social outcast and in walks a woman who then breaks open a jar and pours oil on his head
- c. Please let the weirdness of that verse sink in. Oil. On the head.
- d. And of course, we see the reaction, don't we?
- e. Indignant people (some of the gospels record it was the DISCIPLES!!) talking about how she could have given this to the poor.
- f. But here's the deal: what she did wasn't uncommon.
- g. People typically anointed the heads of guests with oil, just not typically THAT MUCH OIL!! (Worth a year \$\$)
- h. The things we do for Jesus don't really set us apart - it's the passion in what we do that does
- i. **It's not what; it's no matter what!**
- j. I want to live a life marked by No Matter What worship!!
 - I want to worship No Matter What the cost (a year's worth of wages!!)
 - I want to worship No Matter What the situation (Acts 16 / Paul and Silas in prison at midnight!)
 - I want to worship No Matter What the outcome (this woman didn't care what anyone thought)
 - I want to worship No Matter What the risk (1 Kings 18 / Elijah on Mt. Carmel)
- k. There's an interesting verse in Deut. 12. God is explaining how life will be when his people entered the promised land, and he tells them in verse 8 that "Your pattern of worship will change."
- l. Look, I know this building isn't our "promised land," but can I call us to a new pattern of worship?
- m. Not a "what" worship that we do FOR or ABOUT Jesus, but a "no matter what" worship that we give TO Jesus?
- n. It was what she did TO Jesus that he called beautiful.
- o. It's not what; it's no matter what.

3. Our enemy is a destroyer, but our God is a restorer

- a. Here's why that No Matter What worship is so important: because in this story, we aren't Simon, or the woman, or even the people hot and bothered about the waste of worship she displayed
- b. We're the jar, and we're fragile
- c. Paul calls us "jars of clay" and that means that brokenness isn't possible, it's definite

- d. Every last one of us will be broken at some point (many points) in this life - not one of us is immune
- e. **John 10:10** tells us that the enemy comes to destroy, but Jesus gives us life
- f. **Satan is an equal opportunity destroyer, but God is an equal opportunity Restorer!**
- g. If we don't believe that, brokenness seems like the end.
- h. But when we know God as the Restorer, we know that **breakthrough is on the other side of brokenness.**
- i. How do we get through the brokenness to the breakthrough? We praise through!
- j. We do what this woman did - we go all in and live lives marked by No Matter What worship.
- k. Our patten of worship changes from something we do for God to something we give to God.
- l. It becomes more personal than performance.
- m. The atmosphere changes (John 8 says the fragrance spread throughout the room!)

The Landing

A lot has been made about this building because it was old and now it's new.

It's been restored, and Isaiah prophesied that we would be called Restorers of Cities, but cities aren't restored by fixing up old buildings

They're restored because the people in the city are restored

We've got 4 nights to praise through to our breakthrough, and I don't want to wait until tonight.

I want us to wrap this morning up practicing No Matter What worship.

No Matter What the cost, the situation, the outcome, or the risk.

Your breakthrough is on the other side of your brokenness and you'll get there in worship.

Let's pray.