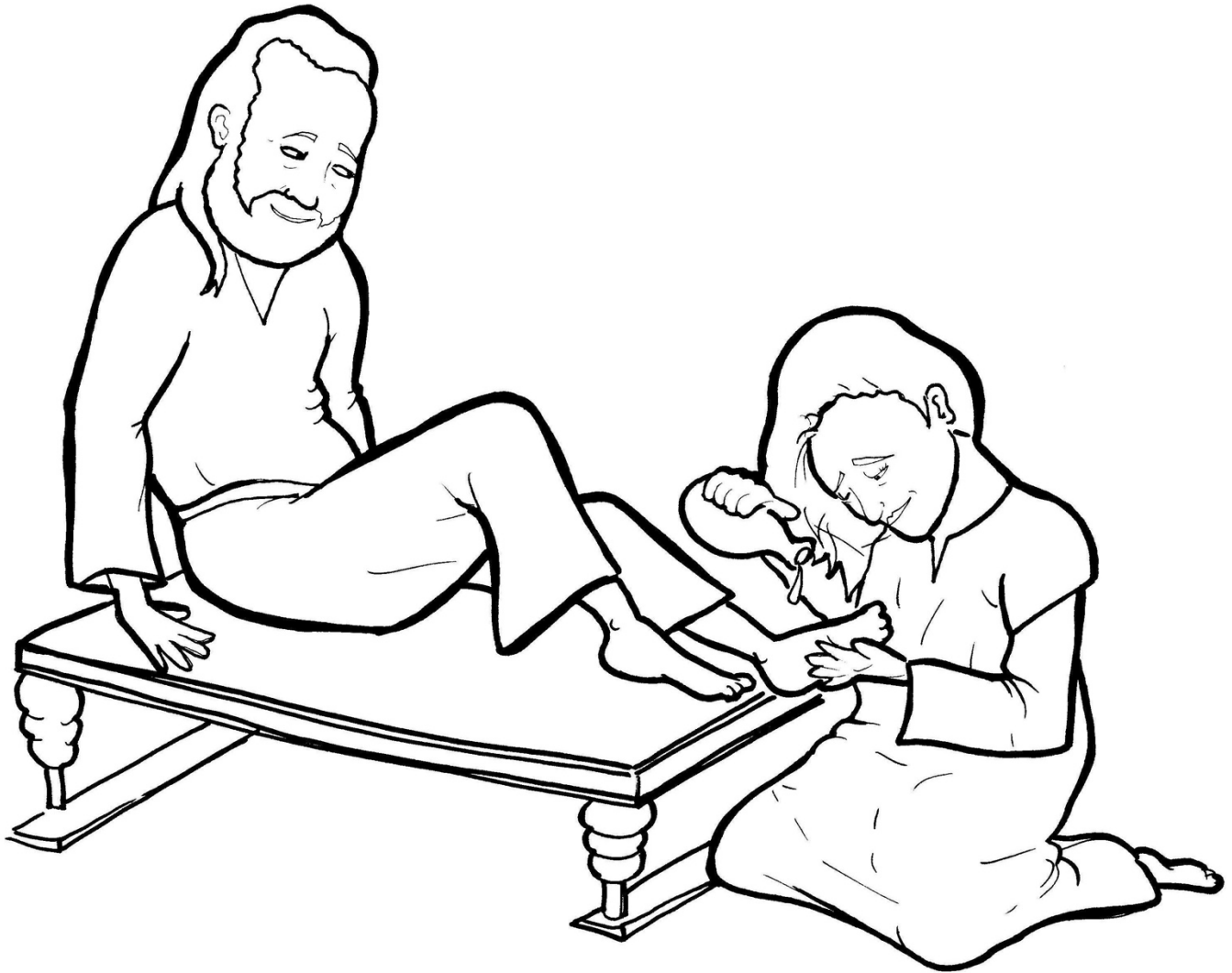


A Woman Washes Jesus' Feet

Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 7; John 12



Jesus said, "She did a beautiful thing to me."

Mark 14:6

A Woman Washes Jesus' Feet EasyReadEnglish

Jesus ate dinner with his friends. A woman came to the house. She came with her own perfume. It cost a lot of money.

In tears, she poured the perfume over Jesus' feet. The whole house smelled sweet.

She wiped Jesus' feet with her long hair. She cried and kissed his feet. She felt sorry for her sins.

Judas was a disciple. He yelled, "That perfume cost a lot of money! She should have sold it. Then she should have given the money to the poor."

"Leave her alone," Jesus said. "She did a beautiful thing to me. She did what she could."

"You will always have poor people with you. But you will not always have me with you."

The woman did this for a reason. An important reason. Jesus was about to die. The woman was getting him ready to be buried.

"Truly, I tell you," Jesus said. "What she has done will be told around the world."

And it has.

Questions

1. Why did Jesus say, “She did a beautiful thing to me?”
2. What are some ways that people can show love for Jesus?
3. What beautiful thing can you do for Jesus?

Pray this Prayer:

Dear Jesus,
Help me to love you
deeply. Help me to
pour out my love for you.
I also want to do beautiful
things for you.
Amen



Write a prayer of love for Jesus in the water.

Show students where the story is in the Bible. Use the Bible references above the illustration.

Before you read:

Activate Prior Knowledge

- a) Have you ever worked hard and saved your money for something special? What was it?
- b) Have you ever been invited into a home? How were you treated as an honored guest?
- c) Why do you think the woman will wash the feet of Jesus?

After you read:

Thinking with the Heart

Mary must have saved her money for years to buy that much pure nard, which is a precious ointment from India. On the coloring page, have the kids write going up the left side: "It took me years to save all this perfume." Write along the top: "People must think I am crazy!" Along the right, write, "I should be saving this to help myself in my old age." Along the bottom, write: "I hope I am doing the right thing." Talk about how Mary didn't worry about her past, future, present, or what others thought. She just loved Jesus right then with her whole heart and all she had. Cross out the lines you wrote. Draw a big circle around Jesus and Mary. Write in the heart: "She gave her best and left the rest to Jesus."

A Beautiful Thing

Jesus said of Mary's act of pure love, "She has done a beautiful thing to me. She did what she could." Write in your most fancy, beautiful handwriting in shining colors what you have done for Jesus or a prayer about what you would like to do for Jesus. Write above it, "I will do what I can." Share 1 Timothy 4:12 and talk about how kids really can do as much as adults to please Jesus.

How to Love Like THAT!

Look up Mark 12:30. Write 4 columns on a board. Have the kids write into each column how Mary loved Jesus with all her heart, mind, soul, and strength – and how they can as well.

You Make Beautiful Things

This story is a compilation of four gospel accounts. We find in Luke 7 that the woman had lived a sinful life, and the whole town knew it. Her past did not stop her. Mary did a beautiful thing to Jesus and in that act, Jesus made her into something so beautiful that her story has been told around the world. As you sing this song, think about questions Mary asked herself, "I wonder if my life could really change?" Not only did her life change, but she has shown us how to love Jesus from the heart. YES! Your life really can change. You may feel like your life is a dirty mess - like the feet of Jesus were, like Mary's soul was. But Jesus forgives, restores, and makes us new. Sing this song to him as a prayer of thanks and hope.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJ4yNYY1hHM>

All this pain...I wonder if I'll ever find my way?
I wonder if my life could really change, at all?
All this earth...could all that is lost ever be found?
Could a garden come out from this ground, at all?

Refrain

You make beautiful things.
You make beautiful things out of the dust.
You make beautiful things.
You make beautiful things out of us.

All around...
hope is springing up from this old ground.
Out of chaos life is being found, in You.

Refrain 2x

You make me new. You are making me new.
You make me new. You are making me new.
Making me new...

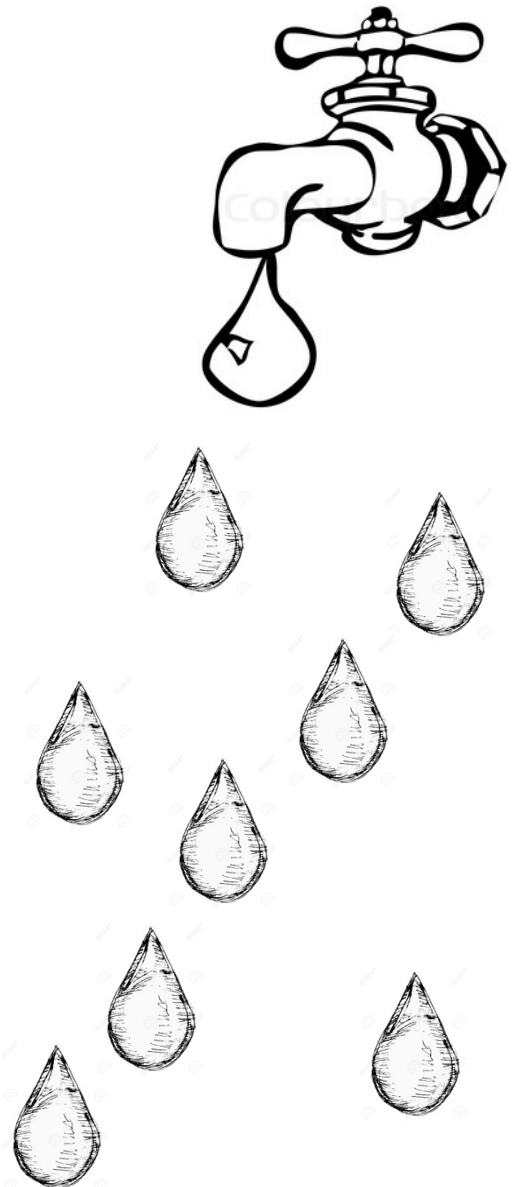
Refrain 2x

You make me new. You are making me new.
You make me new. You are making me new.
Making me new...



FORGIVEN! A Waterfall of Feelings

Mary's faith and her flood of feelings moved Jesus to the depths. Do you worship Jesus with a waterfall of feeling or with tiny drips and drops? Let's learn to love Jesus lavishly, like he loves us. Try out the two types of love. Color in the drip drops while you pray more "shallow" prayers, such as: "please do this; do that for me." Now color in the waterfall with prayers of a greater depth – express deep love for God; praise Jesus; ask for forgiveness; ask him to lead you; and promise him your heart.



Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge.

Psalm 62:8