

Lying Down and Getting Up!!!

August 27/29, 2010

(Read the following story from John 12:1-8. Stop as indicated to let your child(ren) participate and respond. Show them where this story is found in your Bible.)

Jesus at Mary and Martha's House

One night, Jesus was invited to go over to His friends' house to eat dinner. All the disciples, Jesus' special friends, were invited and they came too. Two sisters, Mary and Martha, were there and so was their brother, Lazarus. Everyone sat down for dinner at a big, big table.

Martha had been busy all day cooking the food for dinner and putting it on the table. This dinner was especially for Jesus, and Mary and Martha wanted it to be wonderful. Mary and Martha WANTED TO GIVE THEIR BEST TO JESUS. Mary and Martha loved Jesus with all their hearts. Jesus was their very best friend. *(Discuss with your children what it might mean for them to give their best to Jesus. Ask them what kinds of things we do for a friend that we love.)*

As Jesus and the others were eating, Mary walked into the room very, very quietly. Mary was carrying a gift to give to Jesus. It was a small, beautiful jar. Inside of the jar was expensive perfume. The perfume cost so much money; you would have to work for a whole year just to have enough money to buy that one little jar! It was so expensive, that most people used just a few tiny, tiny drops at a time.

But, not Mary! Mary walked over to Jesus and knelt down beside Him. Then, Mary opened the little jar. The wonderful smell of the perfume filled the whole room. Right away, everyone could smell it! **Then, Mary poured ALL of the perfume on Jesus' feet.** Then, Mary wiped Jesus' feet with her hair. Mary wanted to GIVE HER BEST TO JESUS. *(Discuss with your children what valuable things they have. Would they be willing to give any of those things to Jesus?)*

We don't pour perfume on people's feet and wipe it with our hair anymore. But in Bible times, that was a way to show someone that you really, really loved them. **It was Mary's way of showing Jesus that she loved Him and wanted to GIVE HER BEST TO JESUS.** We should GIVE OUR BEST TO JESUS, too!

These commandments that I give to you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

— Deuteronomy 6:6-8

1. Who went to eat dinner with His friends?
2. Who gave Jesus an expensive gift?
3. What did Mary give to Jesus?
4. What did Mary do with the perfume?
5. Who gave her best to Jesus?

ANSWERS:
(1) Jesus (2) Mary (3) Perfume
(4) She poured it on Jesus' feet (5) Mary

September 12, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Parenting Seminar:
Part Two Raising Kids in a XXX Culture—Focus on
technology. Register at www.chaseoaks.org

At Home And On The Road

At a meal or in the car, discuss the following with your child.

Wow, what an extraordinary thing Mary did for Jesus! Mary gave her very best to show how much she loved Jesus. We all have things we could do or say that would show love to Jesus, but do we really give our best to Jesus **every time?** **Mary didn't give Jesus a couple drops of her perfume even** though that would have shown love to Jesus too. She gave ALL her perfume to Jesus. Mary gave her very best to Jesus.

Discussion: Discuss with your child what valuable things they can give or do to show love for Jesus. Jesus wants to know we love Him because we are willing to give him valuable things, such as our time, our actions, and our words. He wants to know we will give our best to Him. Mary did something that shocked and amazed the people around her because her actions were so out of the ordinary. Sometimes doing our best for Jesus means that we do things that surprise others.

Read Deuteronomy 6:5 to your child and show them where it is found in the Bible. Recite the verse 4 times leaving out a word or phrase each time and replacing it with the following motions:

Love the Lord your God (Point to heaven then leave out the phrase "Lord your God"),

With all your heart (place your right hand on your heart when you leave out "heart"),

With all your soul (hug yourself when you leave out "soul"),

With all your strength (make muscle arms when you leave out "strength"),

Deuteronomy 6:5

Hands and Forehead

Enjoy the following scripture verse with your child.

Doorframes And Gates

Enjoy this project that reinforces the lesson to your child.

(Have fun with this project that reinforces the lesson to your child.)

Giving your best to Jesus. Draw a large perfume bottle on poster board or cardstock. Cut it out and have your child decorate it by painting it with watercolors, coloring it, or gluing a variety of colored **pieces of tissue paper on it. Spray it lightly with either mom's perfume or dad's cologne. Hang it up somewhere where your child will see it, such as the refrigerator.** If you want to make a door decoration, just punch a hole in the top of the perfume bottle and put a piece of yarn or string through the hole. Tie the string at the top and hang on a doorknob.