

Royal Redeemer
CGS Community Discussion Guide

Based on the sermon for Sept. 23, 2018:
When have you been broken?



(For use as an opening Devotion, use only the highlighted portion)

- **Begin by sharing a high and/or a low from your week**

- **Connect**

- How many hours a week do you think you waste? On your own, make a list of 3-5 things that you believe are wastes of time. Once everyone has done that, share your lists. Are there similarities?

- **Grow** (read this passage aloud and listen for words or phrases that speak into your life now)

Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. 2 "But not during the festival," they said, "or the people may riot."

3 While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.

4 Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume? 5 It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly.

6 "Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. 7 The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. 8 She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. 9 Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

Mark 14:1-9

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- Recall a time when you received/gave a really great gift?
- Why do you think the disciples had such a hard time seeing Mary's act as a good thing?
- If you had been in the room when Mary poured perfume on Jesus, how would you have reacted?
- What are a couple of ways you see people try to avoid experiencing brokenness in their lives? What might you tell them or show them to help them understand that broken things are not wasted by God?

- **Serve**

When have you been broken? It seems that some of the most profound work that is done to help and bring healing to the world was done by broken people in the area where they experienced earlier trauma. This week, pray for God to lead you to find a way to turn your area of brokenness into healing for another person. Maybe it's a kind word of encouragement for a person going through a similar situation. Maybe it's picking up a clipboard and volunteering for a cause you believe in. Whatever it is, do it with the full confidence that broken things are not wasted by God.

- **End with Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**