

date: _____

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, **we want YOU to be the one to introduce** this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church, or download it at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app on your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



3.4

Jesus Is Worthy

Part of The Big God Story

John 12:1–11
Mary Anoints Jesus

Just for Fun

This week, gather your family together to **read John 12:1–11**. Spray some perfume or light a scented candle to fill the area with a sweet aroma as you read. Ask your children why they think Mary would pour perfume on Jesus. Explain to them that the oil Mary poured on Him was very expensive and could have cost a year's wages. List some items comparable to that today. As a family, discuss ways you already are or could be showing your sincere devotion to Jesus.

Did You Know?

- Jesus is worthy of worship. Mary, the sister of Lazarus, understood this when she came to Jesus with "a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair" (John 12:3a).
- Nard, an expensive ointment imported from India, was both a luxury cosmetic and a salve used for preserving corpses—particularly people who were greatly respected or very important.
- Though the disciples objected to Mary's display of sincere devotion, Jesus defended Mary and blessed her, saying, "When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial" (Matthew 26:12).
- Jesus, knowing Mary's heart, blessed her act of worship and, in doing so, made an example of the kind of extravagant worship He deserves.

Remember Verse

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.
Psalm 139:23–24

Blessing

For more information about blessing your child see the Blessing section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **may you know the Lord, the One worthy of your worship. May your heart overflow with praise to Him. May you worship the Lord with all that you are and with all that you have.**

Younger Kids

Your child is at a great age to start developing responsibility. Look for simple tasks around the house that you can delegate to your child, such as setting the table or putting away folded towels.

Older Kids

Friendships at this age are very important for social development, but equally as important are family relationships. Set aside time each week, or even better every day, to spend quality time together as a family.

Teachable Moments

After reading John 12:1–11, discuss the following together:

- What does it mean to show sincere devotion?
- What makes Jesus worthy of sincere devotion?
- What are some ways we can extravagantly worship Jesus?