

Sunday Challenge for Children's Groups
Week 5 (21st March)

challenge

Lent 5.

- Talk about the times when we hear sad news
- Take in some perfume, some soap, bubble bath or natural ingredients with a strong smell-lavender bags, mint, lemons. Talk about the times we have a bath and wash our hair because we are going out to a special occasion- a birthday party, a wedding.

Tell the story: John 12. 1-8

Six days before the special time of Passover Jesus came to his friends Lazarus, Martha and Mary. They lived in the village of Bethany and welcomed Jesus to share a dinner with them. Martha worked busily to serve the meal, and Lazarus sat at the table with Jesus.

Mary brought out some very expensive perfume, and began to pour it all over Jesus' feet. Then she used her hair to wipe his feet. The house was filled with the scent of the perfume.

One of Jesus' followers, Judas Iscariot, was angry that Mary was using all of this expensive perfume. "We could have sold this perfume," he said, "and given the money to the poor." (But maybe he just wanted to steal the money, because he was a thief.)

Jesus said to Judas, "Leave Mary alone- she bought this perfume to use when I am buried. The poor will always be here, but I am only here for a very little while."

Wonder:

- What are the things that make us angry.
- What would you give Jesus if he came to your house for tea?
- How Jesus' friends felt when he talked about his burial.

Prayer:

Place the soap, the lavender, the perfume by the prayer candle. Remember that the special occasion which Jesus was preparing for was for his death and burial.

Dear Jesus, we thank you for
the beautiful perfumes in our world.
We thank you for the special times
in our lives- for birthday parties,
weddings, and other happy times.
Help us to share the good things
we have with others. Help people who are angry
with each other to know your love,
and to find friendship instead of hate. Amen

Activity:

Make perfume pots from plasticine and fill them with lavender or rose petals (available loose from some gift shops).

Make foot shaped biscuits and decorate them with writing icing. (Make the biscuits in advance- use foot shaped pastry cutters. Remember to check for allergies. Share them generously with the congregation after church.

