

Icebreakers:

1. Are you better at giving gifts or receiving them? Why is that, do you think?
2. Name a gift that you really enjoyed giving someone else. How did they like it?

Sermon Summary: As we head into this Easter season, let's shift our focus from what Jesus has done for us to how we might be able to give him a costly and purposeful gift that touches his heart and makes sure that He knows how much He means to us.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you suppose that Jesus doesn't command us to make these kinds of extravagant gifts? He deserves them, doesn't He?
2. There are many different kinds of "costs" that go beyond merely financial costs – what are some of those and which would you be willing to pay?
3. When was the last time you gave something to Jesus that really cost you? Tell someone the story or write it in a journal.
4. How could you communicate to Jesus (not to the people around you) that you are "all in" for Him, without reservation?
5. Are you a spontaneous giver (financial, time, energy, etc.) or do you plan it out ahead of time? Which is better?
6. Jim Eliot and four friends gave their lives trying to reach the Waodani people in Ecuador in the early 1950's. They are largely seen as heroes of the American missions movement today, for their dedication and willingness to suffer and die to take the Gospel there. Did you know that they faced serious criticisms from people back home for their decision to endanger themselves to do this? Why do we have this tendency to criticize others who reveal their extravagant love for Jesus by doing something we consider extreme?
7. Did you notice that the disciples called this gift a "waste", even though it was given to Jesus directly? How do you think He felt when he heard their words?
8. What are some tips you can give to help people handle criticism from others without backing down or getting bitter?
9. When was the last time you told Jesus how much He really means to you, bluntly and directly and with emotion? If it's been a while, how come? What excuses tend to get in the way?
10. So...after some reflection...what extravagant gift (or gifts) could you offer Jesus today as we head into "Holy Week"? How could you encourage your family to do the same?

## ROGUE MESSIAH

### Getting to Know Jesus & Love Him

Pastor Toby Locke • Week 12 • 4/5/2020



## A Remarkable Gift

Matthew 26:6-13

Introduction: It's remarkable to see the great Giver of gifts on the receiving end of a gift that touched Him deeply.

### What was so special about this gift?

- Her gift was **VOLUNTARY**.
- Her gift was **COSTLY**.
- Her gift **HELD NOTHING BACK**.
- Her gift was **PRE-MEDITATED**.
- Her gift **EXPOSED** her to **CRITICISM**.
- Her gift had a **PURPOSE**.
- Her gift was **APPRECIATED**.

Conclusion: How much would you be willing to give this Easter to move Jesus's heart the way this woman did? Start planning your gift today!