

# Pastoring Your People

## How to Help People Get to Jesus

**John 12:1-11** (NASB)

*Jesus, therefore, six days before the Passover, came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> So they made Him a supper there, and Martha was serving; but Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with Him. <sup>3</sup> Mary then took a pound of very costly perfume of pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to betray Him, said, <sup>5</sup> “Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and given to poor people?” <sup>6</sup> Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it. <sup>7</sup> Therefore Jesus said, “Let her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial. <sup>8</sup> For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have Me.” <sup>9</sup> The large crowd of the Jews then learned that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus’ sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead. <sup>10</sup> But the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death also; <sup>11</sup> because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and were believing in Jesus.*

### 1. We pastor people well when we make them feel loved:

- Affirm and encourage them.
- Listen well.
- Ask good questions.
- Speak truth in love.

### 2. We pastor people well when we help them discern their real problem:

- Pray before, during and after time with people.
- Ensure accurate understanding of the situation.
- Equip and practice listening to God with them.

### 3. We pastor people well when we help them identify a biblical response:

- Ask what they have found in the Bible related to their problem.
- Read an appropriate passage with them.
- Discuss what obedience to the passage looks like for them.

### 4. We pastor people well when we exhort them to follow through on obedience to God:

*(Ask the person to summarize what God has said through the meeting and what they feel He wants them to do.)*

- Confess you cannot do what is needed yourself. (John 15:5)
- Seek empowerment from the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:26-27)
- Engage the body for help. (I Corinthians 12:12-13)