

Journey with Jesus

Praying through the Gospel of John

Week 14



- Find a place to sit quietly.
- Sit in a relaxed position and close your eyes.
- Breathe normally and become aware of the presence of God.
- ‘Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair.’
- Spend some time praying with these words.
- How are you like Mary?
- What have you poured on the feet of Jesus?
- You might like to listen Arvo Part’s Woman with the alabaster box.
- You might like to listen to Haley Reinhardt sing I can’t help falling in love with you.



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➤ You might like to listen to:

➤ Day 1: Alabaster sung by Rend Collective then click [here](#).

➤ Day 2: Find me at the feet sung by Christy Nockles then click [here](#).

➤ Day 3: Hosanna sung by Hillsong then click [here](#).

➤ Day 4: Jesus the very thought of thee sung by Living Stones Quartet then click [here](#).

➤ Day 5: Be thou my vision sung by Salt of the Sound then click [here](#).

➤ Day 6: Glorify thy name sung by Maranatha Music then click [here](#).

➤ Day 7: Cry of the broken sung by Hillsong then click [here](#).



Day 1: John 12:1-6

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

- Read this passage from John 12.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
- How has the Spirit been at work in your heart as you have prayed?
- You might like to note these down in your journal.
- When you have finished click [here](#) to continue.



Day 2: John 12:7-11

“Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me.” Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him.

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Day 3: John 12:12-15

The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Blessed is the king of Israel!”

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming seated on a donkey’s colt.”

- Read this passage from John 12.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
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- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
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Day 4: John 12:16-19

At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realise that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. So the Pharisees said to one another, “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!”

- Read this passage from John 12.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
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Day 5: John 12:20-26

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.”

- Read this passage from John 12.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
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Day 6: John 12:27-34

“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die. The crowd spoke up, “We have heard from the Law that the Messiah will remain forever, so how can you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this ‘Son of Man’?”

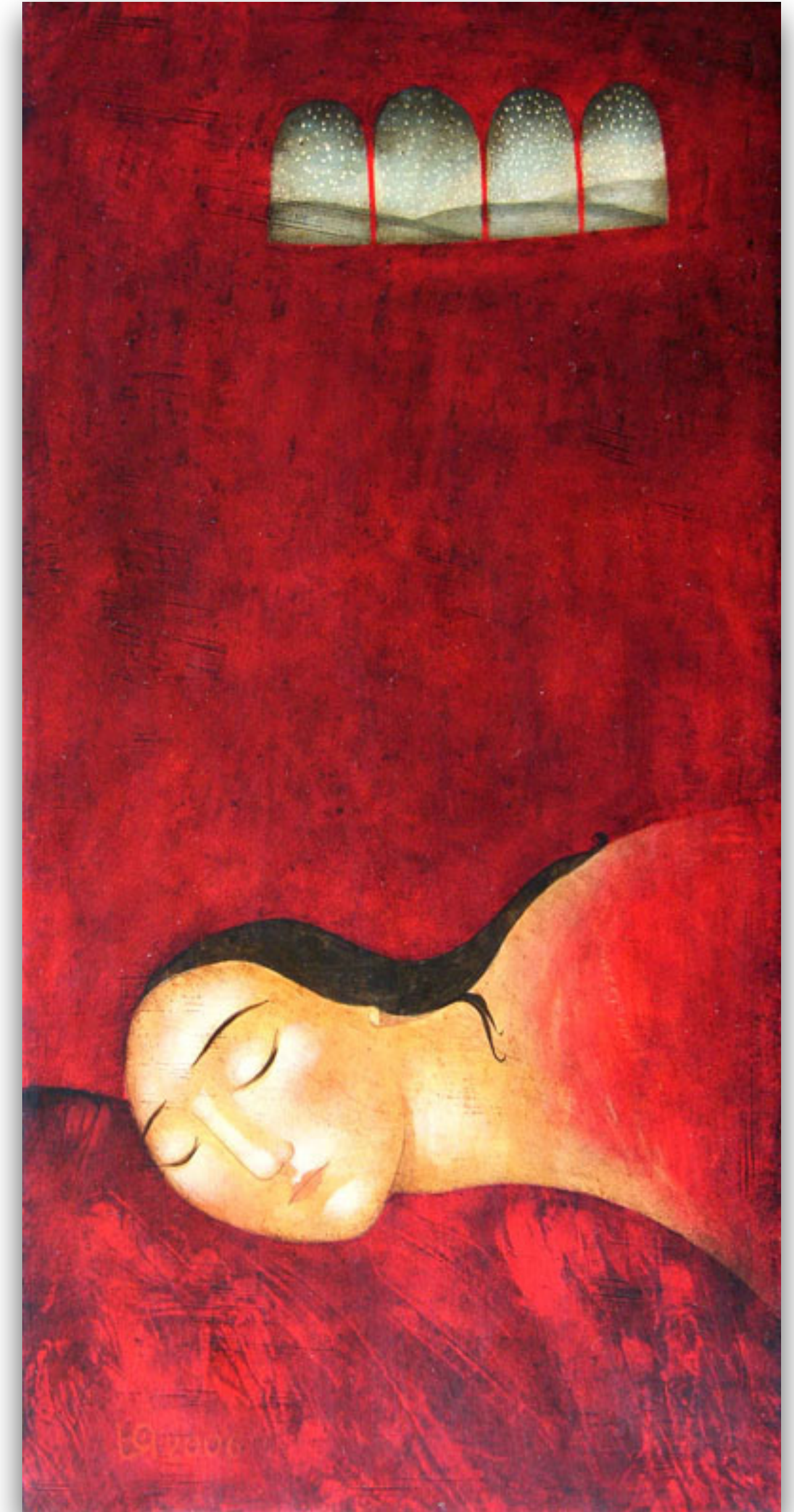
- Read this passage from John 11.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
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Day 7: John 12:35-36

Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light.” When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

- Read this passage from John 12.
 - What words or phrases strike you?
- Read these words again slowly.
 - Stay with one of the words or phrases that catches you and hold it in the stillness before God.
- What thoughts, feelings and images have emerged in this time of prayer?
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Over the week you might like to listen to the Choir of Clare College Cambridge

➤ Day 1: Woman with the alabaster box

➤ Day 2: Plainscapes

➤ Day 3: Magnificat

➤ Day 4: Nunc Dimittis

➤ Day 5: Miserere

➤ Day 6: Stabat Mater

➤ Day 7: Da Pacem, Domine

A link to the whole album can be found [here](#).



Creative prayer

Prayerful colouring

- Sometimes just being active in creativity can be a way of stilling the mind to listen to God in prayer.
- You can buy many books and cards where we are encouraged to use colouring as prayer. Lindisfarne Scriptorium has some examples.
- To the right there is an image of Spikenard, the Himalayan plant used to make nard. On the next page is a black and white image of the same plant.
- Print out the page and get some crayons or pens or brushes and colour in. As you do let your mind wander in prayer with Jesus and see where he takes you. Release yourself into his hands and open your heart to him.
- As you do you might like to listen to Rend Collective sing The Joy of the Lord is my strength.





I am the resurrection and the life

How can you be the final resurrection?
That resurrection hasn't happened yet.
Our broken world is still bent on destruction,
No sun can rise before that sun has set.
Our faith looks back to father Abraham
And toward to the one who is to come
How can you speak as though he knew your name?
How can you say: **before he was I am?**

**Begin in me and I will read your riddle
And teach you truths my Spirit will defend
I am the End who meets you in the middle,
The new Beginning hidden in the End.
I am the victory, the end of strife
I am the resurrection and the life.**

Malcolm Guite - used with the poet's permission

Click on the title of this sonnet to listen to the author read these words.



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Journey with Jesus

Praying through the Gospel of John

Week 14

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This prayer station and other resources can be found at [The Prayer Room](#)

