

# NEW BEGINNINGS

*begin with the end in mind*

## Live like you were dying [10.25.09]

*We're all terminal. Some of us are just lucky enough to know it.*

## Love deeper [11.01.09]

*You can't control the length of your life. Just the depth.*

## Speak sweeter

*You have the power to change someone's life, to give a moment that will be cherished forever. So what are you waiting for?*

## Give forgiveness you've been denying

*I know how long you've carried it around and how heavy it is.*

## Embrace Eternity

*May we live like we were dying with passion and purpose, and mission and meaning*

**TO LIVE LIKE YOU WERE DYING IS A BOLD CONCEPT.** We rarely even speak about dying, let alone live as if death were a certainty. However, what if you were told today that you only had thirty days to live? What would you change in your life? What would you do differently? Would life take on a new meaning? Would the prospect of an after-life suddenly become more than a theory? Would you seek out long lost friends? During this series we'll learn what it means to love deeper, speak sweeter, give forgiveness and embrace eternity.

**Live Like You Were Dying – Love Deeper**

First United Methodist Church



# Love Deeper

*Live Like You Were Dying*

## ▶ Love doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ the costs.

Mary took a twelve-ounce jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard, and she anointed Jesus' feet with it and wiped his feet with her hair. v 3

## ▶ Love gets \_\_\_\_\_

And the house was filled with fragrance. v 3

## ▶ Doesn't care what others might \_\_\_\_\_

But Judas Iscariot, said, "That perfume was worth a small fortune. It should have been sold and the money given to the poor." v 5

## ▶ Love must be \_\_\_\_\_ to be effective

- DO THE UNEXPECTED.** When you fully experience grace, love is the natural byproduct. How did Mary's extravagant love flow from grace? How would you have felt if you were at the dinner?
- DO THE UNAFFORDABLE.** Love has always been connected to sacrifice. Judas criticized Mary because the money she wasted. Did Judas have a valid point? Do you give generously like Mary or grudgingly like Judas? Who can you bless this week with an "over the top" expression of love?
- DO IT NOW!** Mary didn't wait for a convenient time to act... She just did it! Before others could criticize her for being rash, Jesus comes to her defense. Have you ever been misunderstood and criticized for showing extravagant love?

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**This is God's Word for my life in this place and at this time. Today, I am a new creation in Christ, I am God's very own, and I believe He has a purpose for my life.**

### ***John 12:1-8 (NLT)***

Six days before the Passover ceremonies began, Jesus arrived in Bethany, the home of Lazarus—the man he had raised from the dead. [2] A dinner was prepared in Jesus' honor. Martha served, and Lazarus sat at the table with him. [3] Then Mary took a twelve-ounce jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard, and she anointed Jesus' feet with it and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with fragrance. [4] But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples—the one who would betray him—said, [5] "That perfume was worth a small fortune. It should have been sold and the money given to the poor." [6] Not that he cared for the poor—he was a thief who was in charge of the disciples' funds, and he often took some for his own use. [7] Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. She did it in preparation for my burial. [8] You will always have the poor among you, but I will not be here with you much longer."

*"None of us can hold back our spirit from departing. None of us has the power to prevent the day of our death..." Eccl 8:8a*

The most dangerous word in the English language is the word "someday".

1. Many of us suffer from the "someday syndrome".
2. The problem with "some day" is that it can rob us of "this day".

To live with a sense of urgency means to live with an awareness that you aren't promised "Some day".