

FULL BLOOM

WEEK 1

BIG IDEA

God sent Jesus to save us.

BIBLE

Jesus Anointed at Bethany: John 12:1-8; Genesis 3:1-24

ABOUT THIS WEEK

One of the best parts of walking through a garden is smelling all of the flowers as they bloom. This week, we'll hear about how Mary anointed Jesus with perfume during a dinner party. Mary's actions show us that she picked up on a really important part of Jesus' mission on earth—God sent Jesus to save us.

Large Group Time

Welcome

Ava: Play 5 minute countdown at 9:25/11:25

When checking in kids please make sure that every one is entering the correct age group and check their tags! If their tag doesn't match please get Kayleah or Rachel before allowing the kiddo to enter Freedom KIDS.

Check-In: Kelly C./Jordan

Carlos

Hey there, welcome to our amazing garden that's bursting with life—*Full Bloom!* Picture this: colorful flowers stretching high as skyscrapers, grass so tall it feels like towers, and the sweet smell of nectar all around. It's like being tiny bugs in a huge, beautiful world—just like when we think about our super-awesome God.

Today's story is about someone larger than life itself. Get ready to explore this incredible Bible story about someone really, really big.

WELCOME

Welcome first time guests and explain bible bucks (100)

- **Bible bucks for Bibles (10)**

- **Remind to turn in homework (150) and say verse (100)**

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

POLL | Which smell is better?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Poll your kids on the following questions by having them move to opposite sides of the room to respond to each answer choice or hold up one or two fingers to indicate their choice.*
- **Which smell do you think is better?**
 - **Flowers or freshly cut grass?**
 - **Lemons or strawberries?**
 - **Bubble gum or chocolate?**
 - **Crayons or a library book?**
 - **Shampoo or hand sanitizer?**
- There are so many different scents out in the world. When we smell something we love, we can feel like we want to bottle it up and keep it forever.
- Some smells can connect us to our favorite memories and people, and in today's Bible story, everyone was connected by this one wonderful smell.

Please end Welcome time by 9:45/11:45

MEMORY VERSE | 2 Peter 3:18a (NIV) - Clayton

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Introduce this month's memory verse and explain its meaning*
- **"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."**

Key points about this verse:

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- This verse is a call to continuous spiritual development, urging believers to not become stagnant in their faith but to continually deepen their understanding of God's grace and their relationship with Jesus.

To grow in grace and knowledge, believers are encouraged to:

- **Study the Word:** Regularly engage with the Bible to learn more about God and His plan.
- **Pray:** Seek God's guidance and wisdom through prayer.
- **Seek Fellowship:** Connect with other believers to encourage and challenge each other in their faith.
- **Live a Life of Obedience:** Strive to live in accordance with God's will, demonstrating the fruits of the Spirit

BIG IDEA | God sent Jesus to save us.- Clayton

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Introduce this weeks big idea*
- Let's say it together: **God sent Jesus to save us.**
- **Tithes and offerings**

Pray for: Krishna's Future

Worship- Clayton and Morgan

1. Praise
2. All hail king Jesus

Play Video

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

SCRIPTURE | John 12:1-8 (Jesus Anointed at Bethany)

Morgan- Release to small groups (Please give a 2 min warning at 10:25/12:25)

Introduce yourself

Give out bible bucks for participation

- Jesus would often visit a town called Bethany because he had some really good friends there. Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, who were brothers and sisters. In fact, they were such good friends that when Lazarus got very sick—so sick he died—Jesus then did something amazing. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead.
- The next time Jesus came to their town, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus threw him a dinner party. Martha was serving everyone—making sure everyone had plenty to eat. Lazarus was sitting at the table with Jesus.... but where was Mary? Mary was about to do something unexpected.
- **Let's read John 12:1-3.**
- **What did Mary do to show her love for Jesus?** *Mary poured expensive perfume on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair.*
 - Mary pulled out a pint of pure nard, which is a very expensive perfume, and poured it on Jesus' feet. the sweet scents filling the air. It was a way for her to honor Jesus with the best she had to offer. In doing this, she showed her love and gratitude for Jesus.
 - She then started to wipe Jesus' feet with her hair. While most people could see just how much she loved Jesus, it wasn't all sunshine and roses for someone else...
- **Mary gave her very best to Jesus. What are some things you could give to Jesus? Is that your very best, or is there more?**
- **Let's read John 12:4-8.**
- **Why was Judas upset about the perfume?** *Judas wanted to sell the perfume and steal some of the money.*
 - One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, was *really* upset by what Mary did. He wanted the perfume to be sold and the money to be donated to people who needed it. But Judas was only thinking about himself.
- **What did Jesus say to Judas?** *Jesus told him to leave Mary alone. He knew he would not be with them for much longer.*
 - He was known as the bag's keeper, meaning he would handle the money. Sometimes, though, Judas would help himself with the money even though it didn't belong to him.

- Jesus knew how much Mary always wanted to be close to him. A similar thing happened at a previous dinner party where Mary chose to sit at Jesus' feet and listen to him teach the entire time.
- Jesus wouldn't let anyone criticize what Mary did. Instead, he was grateful that Mary had given up such a precious thing, especially because he knew that he would die very soon.
- Think of Jesus as this larger-than-life gardener. He came to earth to repair the garden—our broken world—so that people could be connected to God like before.
- Jesus was changing things and rescuing people, and the disciples needed to be ready for what was next. God was ready to bring everyone's faith into *full bloom*.

SCRIPTURE | Genesis 3:1–24

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read or paraphrase this Scripture for kids. We've highlighted a few key verses you may want to read aloud if you are not reading the whole passage together.*
- In the beginning, Adam and Eve lived together in the Garden of Eden with God and were good friends. This garden was the place where God created humanity. Things were good here! Adam and Eve got to spend time with God and have a great relationship.
- **If you could be in a garden with God like Adam and Eve, what would you want to do together?**
- One day, Adam and Eve no longer lived the way God wanted them to. They wanted something that didn't belong to them, leading them to make a choice that negatively impacted their relationship with God.
 - **Read Genesis 3:1–7.** When they took the fruit from the tree God had warned them not to eat from, it showed they didn't fully trust God. What they did was an act of sin, which makes it harder to be close to God. Adam and Eve had a hard time owning up to what they did and could no longer live in the garden.
 - **Read Genesis 3:21–24.**
 - **How does this verse show that God still cared for Adam and Eve, even though they had just disobeyed God?** *God gave them what they needed.*
 - Even though their relationship with God changed, God still cared for Adam and Eve. God made them clothes when they felt shame and helped them get ready for their new journey.
- God wasn't done with people, though. God sent someone to save us to help us get back into a place like the Garden of Eden. God sent Jesus to rescue us all and show us how to make things right with God.
- God sent Jesus to make a way for us back to God. When we believe in Jesus and put our trust in him, we can be close to God again, just like Adam and Eve were in the garden.
- **God sent Jesus to save us.**

What is something you can do this week to thank God for sending Jesus to us?

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

REFLECTION | Garden Time With God

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Use this time to have kids calm down and think about what they learned today. You may choose to use an oil diffuser with fragrances like lavender, lemon, or orange during this time.*
 - **ACCESSIBILITY HACK:** *In activities with self-reflection, present clear, explicit directions, let them know what they're expected to do, model how to do it, and guide them at*

each step of the activity.

- Close your eyes and breathe deeply. Imagine you are in a garden, and you are the size of a small bug. All the blades of grass are taller than you!
- **Name one thing you smell.**
- As you think about being in this garden, turn your thoughts to God. God created everything in the garden and helped it to grow ... including us. Let's talk about some ways we can grow today.
 - **When was the last time you talked with God? What did you talk about?**
 - **Is there anything you want to say "thank you" to God for?**
 - **Is there anything you want to say "I'm sorry" to God for?**
 - **What is something you can ask God to help you with? Who else can you ask for help?**
- Always know that God is listening to you and loves spending time with you. After all, **God sent Jesus to save us** so we can spend forever together!

Prayer

Ask for prayer requests and write prayer requests on a prayer card. Then pray together

- God, thank you for sending Jesus to save us. Thank you for rescuing us and giving us a chance to grow again. You love us so much, even when we make mistakes. Help us to become more like Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSE | Flowery Gifts

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a copy of the [printable](#). In the middle, have the kids write about or draw something meaningful or valuable to them that they could give to Jesus as a gift. This could be their time, a skill or talent, money, or something else. Afterward, they can color in their flowers and then place them into a basket at the front of the room to give Jesus their gifts.
- Mary wanted to honor Jesus by giving him something valuable. Each of us has something we can give to Jesus, too. It can be our way of thanking Jesus for saving us and bringing us back to how things were in God's garden.
- **What's something you could give to Jesus as a gift?**
 - **Is it a skill you have?**
 - **Can you tell people about Jesus?**
 - **Your time?**
 - **Your money?**
 - **Your trust?**
- All of these are great gifts we can give to Jesus. We give them to say, "Thanks for saving me, Jesus!" It's so special to know God loves us and **God sent Jesus to save us**.

SPIN IT TO WIN IT: Morgan (please have Bible Bucks ready to hand out), start spin-it at 10:28/12:28

PICK UP, CALL NAMES: Kelly C/Jordan

PICK UP, CHECK TAGS:

PICK UP, HAND OUTS: Zarlee

KID STORE: Carlos, Ava & Clayton

