



## Session 3:

# Jesus Appeared Wasteful

September 23, 2019 • Rev. Doug Gray  
First Church of Squantum

Bible Study Based on  
Leonard Sweet's *The Bad Habits of Jesus: Showing Us  
How to Live Right in a World Gone Wrong*

### I. Introductions and Prayer

- A. Leonard Sweet writes: "Would Jesus offend you today? If not, you are missing the scandalous nature of Jesus, the rabble-rousing rabbi, as told in the stories of the Gospels. Jesus revealed a God who has gone to great trouble over every person in every corner of the world. No one is not worth God's trouble. That is why Jesus came to trouble us with the truth: that it is only in being "bad" in the eyes of the world that we can be "good" in the eyes of God." (p. xvi)
- B. Leonard Sweet writes: "Jesus' descriptions [of the Kingdom] are not of scarcity and asceticism but of abundance—bread that will expand to feed a world, a tree that will feed and house all within its branches." (p. 27)

### II. A Land Flowing with Milk and Honey

- A. Read Deuteronomy 8:6–18
  - 1. What about the Promised land will be amazing?
  - 2. What is Moses worried will happen?
  - 3. How can the people avoid that?
- B. Thinking back to the Exodus and the Wilderness
  - 1. How did God care for the Children of Israel?
  - 2. When did they experience God's abundance? What was their response?
  - 3. When did they experience scarcity? What was their response?
  - 4. Do their experiences mesh with your own?

### III. The Woman Who Blew a Year's Salary (Matthew 26:6–16)

- A. Read the passage. What are some things you notice? Are you surprised by Jesus' response?
- B. Why do you think Jesus responds the way He does?
- C. Judas is really bothered by this colossal waste. Is there a voice in your head that sounds like Judas when you are wasting time and money in doing something for God or someone else?

### IV. Conclusions: We have a wasteful God!

Leonard Sweet writes: "For Jesus, maturity as a follower is not learning how to save (Jesus has much to say about those who hoard rather than rejoicing in the moment) but learning how to spend abundantly in ways that sow God's love and grace into a hungry and thirsty world. A Jesus follower is not a waster of blessings, but a Jesus follower learns to waste wisely—to luxuriate and revel in the abundant blessings of God." (p. 30)