

Everyday FAITH Family Page

3 in 1: Discovering Our Triune God

Key Point

The Holy Spirit renewed Mary's life, enabling her to show love for Jesus. The Holy Spirit renews my life so that I strive to overcome sin and live as God's child, showing love for others.

Bible Words

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
2 Corinthians 5:17

Law/Gospel

My sin troubles me and condemns me to eternal death.

Jesus gives His love and forgiveness to me and all sinners who call upon Him for mercy and, through His Spirit, gives me new life, enabling me to love others.

God Prepared These?

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

Ephesians 2:8–10
(emphasis added)

The Spirit Renews Us: Mary Shows Her Love for Jesus

John 12:1–8

During Holy Week, Mary, sister of Lazarus and Martha, anointed Jesus' feet with an expensive jar of perfume and wiped them with her hair.

Mary believed Jesus was Christ, the Savior. The Bible says that Jesus loved Mary and her siblings (John 11:5). Earlier, Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to His teaching while her sister worked (Luke 10:38–42). She witnessed Jesus raise her brother Lazarus from the dead after he was in the grave for four days (John 11).

Now, the Spirit led Mary to know that Jesus was about to die. Anointing Jesus' feet was an act of worship that gave Him glory and honor.

Judas, the disciple who betrayed Jesus later that week, scoffed at Mary's actions and said she shouldn't have wasted the perfume. He said it was worth 300 denarii, almost as much as a laborer made in a year. Judas claimed they should have sold the perfume and gave its proceeds to the poor. Jesus rebuked Judas and praised Mary, saying she had prepared Him for burial.

The truth was that Judas was a thief and wanted to steal the money. While Mary acted out of love for Jesus, Judas was motivated by greed and selfish desires.

Resurrection and Renewal

Mary did not earn Jesus' favor with her actions. She did it because the Holy Spirit used Jesus' love for her to move her to do this good and holy work. So it is with us; the Holy Spirit moves us to live as God's children, not to *earn* God's forgiveness, but *because* of God's forgiveness.

Renewed and washed clean in Holy Baptism, we love and serve others with gladness because we have received Christ's forgiveness.

Prayer

*Holy Spirit, please help us to praise and serve You with gladness.
In the name of Jesus. Amen.*