

# Together @ Home

April 3, 2022  
The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Here are some activities you could do together as a family. Begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



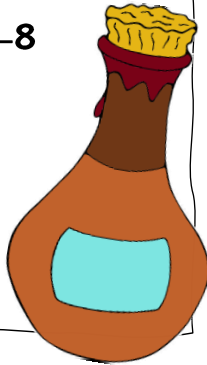
## Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together the story of Mary and her perfume.

You can find it in your Bible in:

**John 12 v 1–8**

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your family.



The other passages we might be thinking about at church this week are:

Psalm 126

## A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank You for the story of Mary who recognized how important and precious You are.

As we begin our journey towards Easter help us to draw closer to You.

Thank You for all those in the story who heard about Jesus' miracles and believed in Him. Help those who do not know You to hear about You this Easter time.

Amen

## Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

- *What did Mary do with her perfume?*
- *What are some of your favorite smells?*

Mary's perfume was very very expensive, that is why people were so shocked that she gave it to Jesus. But Mary understood how special Jesus was and how precious it was to spend time with Him.

Sometimes there is a cost to spending time with Jesus, we might have to give up doing something else that we also enjoy, but time with Jesus is precious and important

A question for children to ask adults

*What are some of the things you do to spend time with Jesus and show Him how special He is to you?*

## Family Activity

*You will need: A selection of items from around the home – perfume, soap, grass, food items etc. Blindfolds (scarves)*

Collect together a selection of items from around your house and yard. Children should take turns smelling the items while wearing a blindfold – can they guess what they are smelling?

They could be nice smells e.g. chocolate, not so nice smells e.g. dirty socks or familiar smells e.g. a parent's perfume or cologne.

Spend some time wondering together what Mary's perfume smelled like.





## A verse to remember

### Psalm 141 v 2

**"Let my prayer be like incense placed before you."**

To learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

Incense, a substance burned to produce a fragrant scent, was used in the Old Testament temple. The sweet smelling smoke rising up reminded everybody that their prayers were traveling to God. The Bible says our prayers and worship are a sweet smell to God. God loves to hear our prayers!

## Family Activity 2

*You will need: Paper and pens*

### Design a perfume for God.

We know that God loves the smell of our prayers and worship. Draw a bottle shape and then write or draw inside some of the ways we can worship God that would be a sweet smell to Him.

Remember we can worship in so many different ways, not just by singing or dancing but by living our lives in a way that pleases God, being kind, sharing, encouraging, and loving others too.



## Active Prayer

Open a door or window from your house and send out some prayers into your community.

Spray some perfume out of the window or if you have bubble mixture you could blow bubbles down the street.

Just as the scent of the perfume travels or the bubbles float down the street, pray that God's peace and comfort would travel out to your neighbors and community.

## Helping Older Children

*Because your child is likely aware of issues dealing with illness, violence, and death in our world, do not be afraid of talking to your children about these things. Our journey to Easter during Lent is a good time to remember that Jesus defeated death and rose again.*

### ***It is alright to be sad***

In the Bible we see Jesus weep over a friend's death. It is alright to be sad when we think about death or when somebody we know has died. God is with us even when we are sad.

### ***This isn't how God planned the world***

This wasn't how the world was supposed to be. God's original plan was for a world with no sickness, no pain, nobody hurting, and everybody living forever with him. It is because of sin in the world that it is not like that.

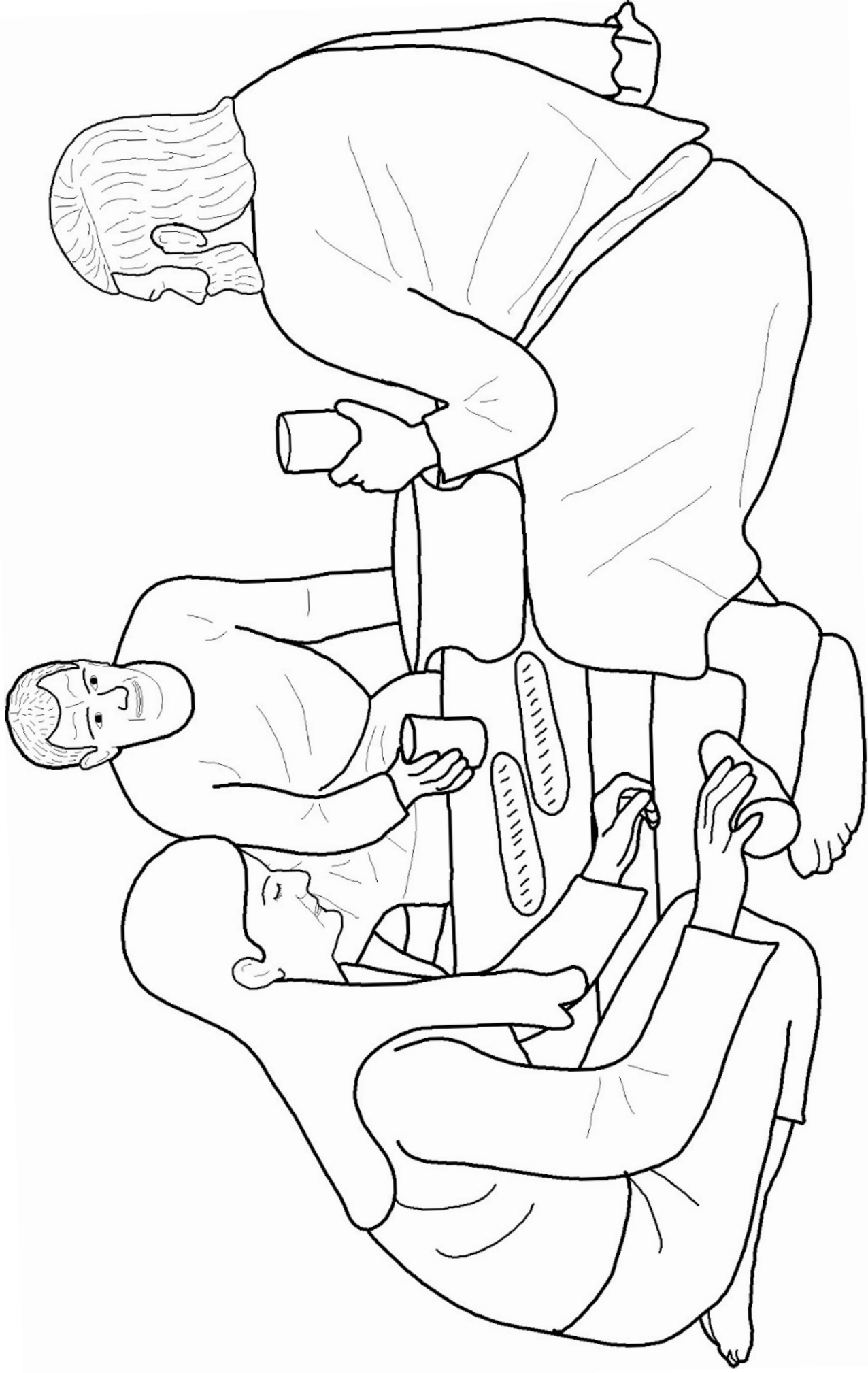
### ***When we die, we have a new life in heaven***

Even though it is hard to lose people, God has made a way through Jesus that everybody can become his friend, be forgiven for their sins, and live for eternity with God. In heaven there is no pain, sickness, sadness or death.

### ***God is bigger!***

God is bigger than anything we are scared or worried about, bigger than sickness or death. When we are sad or scared or worried we can call out to God. God is always with us and always hears us. It's good to talk to grown-ups whom we trust too and share how we are feeling so that they can pray with us.

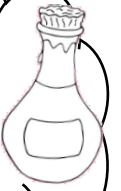
# Coloring Page



# Puzzle Sheet

Mmmm...something smells good – can you complete the picture to show what the boy can smell?

There are perfume bottles like this one hidden on the page... how many can you find?

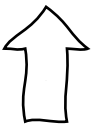


Here's something else that smells nice. Join the dots in order from a to z to find out what, then colour the picture.

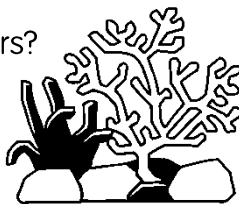


Can you guess the words from their picture clues? They are all words made from the letters of the word PERFUME.

Can you think of any others?

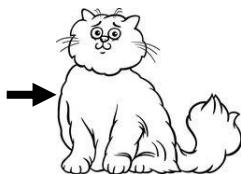
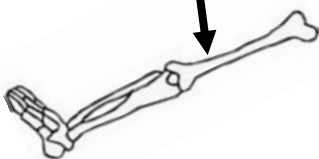


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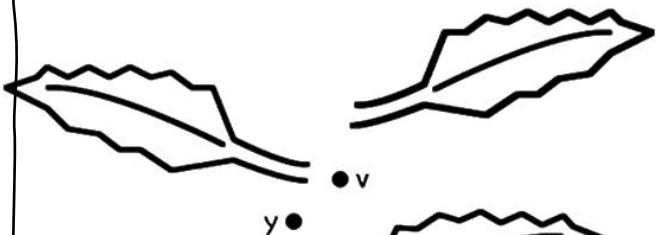
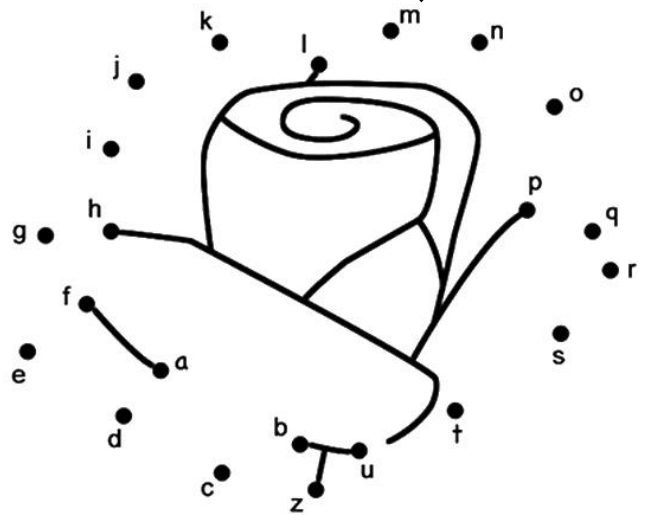
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Answers: up, free, reef, fur and femur



x • • w

Answer: There are 7 bottles hidden on the page.

