

**Title:** Origin of the Oil

**Text:** *"So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and **poured oil on the top of it.**"* (Genesis 28:18)

**Target:** The oil was never the source of the anointing; it just revealed it.

**I. The Sacrifice of the Oil: "poured"**

**A. Practical:** Everyday Commodity

1. **Healing:** Essential Oil
2. **Light:** Used for lamp stands
3. **Cooking:** Seasoning
4. **Preservation:** Used as a conditioner
5. **Currency:** Traded for goods

**B. Spiritual:** Divine Encounter

1. **Revelation:** *"Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it."* (Genesis 28:16)
2. **Separation:** *"How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of Heaven."* (Genesis 28:17)
3. **Consecration:** *"He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first."* (Genesis 28:19)

**Discussion Question:** What are you currently pouring out that feels ordinary to you, but might actually be sacred to God?

**Cross-References:**

Romans 12:1 — "Present your bodies as a living sacrifice..."

2 Kings 4:1–7 — God multiplies what's already in the house

**Group Prompt:**

Where do you underestimate what God can use in your daily life—time, energy, gifts, or even pain?

**Discussion Question:** Have you ever realized *after the moment* that God was present and you didn't recognize it at first?

**Cross-References:**

Luke 24:13–35 — The disciples on the road to Emmaus

Psalm 139:7–10 — God's presence even when unnoticed

**Group Prompt:**

What might God be doing right now in your life that you'll only recognize later?

**Discussion Question:** What would it look like for you to rename a painful or confusing season the way Jacob renamed Luz to Bethel?

**Cross-References:**

Isaiah 61:3 — Beauty for ashes

Genesis 50:20 — What was meant for evil, God used for good

**Group Prompt:**

Is there a season you've labeled as failure, loss, or delay that God may be calling sacred?

## II. The Sacredness of the Oil: From Bethel to the Tabernacle

**A. Oil=Anointed:** *"I am the God of Bethel, where you **anointed** a pillar and made a vow to me."* (Genesis 31:13)

**1. Earthly Language:** "Masah"-Smear, Mark, Spread \*Messiah- "Masah" becomes the root word of this word.

**2. Heavenly Language:** Marked, Claimed, Ownership, Seal a boundary

**B. Oil was set-apart:** *"And you shall say to the people of Israel, 'This shall be my holy anointing oil throughout your generations. It shall not be poured on the body of an ordinary person, and you shall make no other like it in composition. It is holy, and it shall be holy to you.'*" (Exodus 30:31-32)

**C. Tabernacle/Tools/Furniture:** *"With it you shall anoint the tent of meeting and the ark of the testimony, and the table and all its utensils, and the lampstand and its utensils, and the altar of incense, and the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils and the basin and its stand. You shall consecrate them, that they may be most holy. Whatever touches them will become holy."* (Exodus 30:26-29)

**D. Priests:** *"You shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may serve me as priests."* (Exodus 30:30)

**Discussion Question:** When you hear that oil means marked, claimed, sealed, how does that challenge how you see your identity?

Cross-References:

Ephesians 1:13–14 — Sealed with the Holy Spirit

1 Peter 2:9 — A chosen people, royal priesthood

**Group Prompt:**

Where do you still live like you belong to fear, shame, or performance instead of God?

**Discussion Question:** Why do you think God was so serious about the oil being holy and not common?

Cross-References:

Leviticus 10:1–3 — Unauthorized fire

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 — Your body is a temple

**Group Prompt:**

Are there areas where you've treated something holy (calling, marriage, faith, integrity) as casual?

**Discussion Question:** The oil touched people, tools, and spaces. What part of your life needs to be re-consecrated?

Cross-References:

Psalm 24:3–4 — Clean hands and pure hearts

2 Timothy 2:20–21 — Vessels for honorable use

**Group Prompt:**

What would change if you truly believed your work, home, and relationships were holy ground?

**III. The Snapshot of the Oil: Bethel to Bethany**

- A. Recognized as Savior:** *"And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head."* (Mark 14:3)
- B. Responded with Sacrifice:** *"She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial."* (Mark 14:8)
- C. Remember the Stone:** (Genesis 28)
  - 1. Oil-Stone Vs. Oil-Jesus
  - 2. God-Vision Vs. God-Flesh
  - 3. Sacred-Place Vs. Sacred-Person
  - 4. Anticipation Vs. Fulfillment

**Discussion Question:** The woman poured costly oil on Jesus without explanation. What keeps us from offering extravagant worship?

Cross-References:

2 Samuel 24:24 — Worship that costs something

Hebrews 13:15 — Sacrifice of praise

**Group Prompt:**

What's one thing God may be asking you to give that feels "too much"?

**Discussion Question:** Jesus says, *"She has done what she could."* How freeing or convicting is that statement for you?

Cross-References:

Micah 6:8 — What the Lord requires

Matthew 25:21 — Faithful with little

**Group Prompt:**

Where have you delayed obedience because you felt it wasn't enough?

**Discussion Question:** Jacob poured oil on a stone. The woman poured oil on Jesus. What does it mean that we now meet God in a Person, not a place?

Cross-References:

John 1:14 — The Word became flesh

John 4:23–24 — Worship in spirit and truth

**Group Prompt:**

How does knowing Jesus is the fulfillment change how you approach prayer, worship, and daily life?

**Takeaway:** God anoints the common and makes it uncommon, ordinary to extraordinary, insignificant to significant.