



“And now I am no more in the world,  
but these are in the world...” (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance  
of this week’s lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®  
or Standard Lesson Quarterly®.

### **COMPETING VALUE SYSTEMS**

Nipsey Hussle moved beyond his gang-affiliated youth in South Los Angeles to become famous as a rap artist. As a rich entrepreneur, he became a model for many in the poorer areas of L.A., where he became a successful businessman. Nipsey encouraged his community to make long-term plans for success in life. On March 31, 2019, Nipsey was killed by gunfire, allegedly from an aspiring rapper who had had a disagreement with him earlier in the day. The suspect’s own rap music exhibited a different value system, one that glorifies guns, violence, and murder.

### **QUESTIONING A WOMAN’S VALUE SYSTEM**

When the disciples condemned the woman’s actions in anointing Jesus with expensive perfume, they were questioning not only her value system, but also her value as a person. They condemned her for not using her expensive gift as they might have. They were also questioning Jesus’ values for accepting the woman’s “wasteful” act.

1. How does a person’s lifestyle express the values they live by?
2. Did the disciples’ objection to the woman’s act have any validity? Explain.
3. Have you ever felt as the disciples did about another person’s “extravagant” lifestyle? Explain the rationale for your judgment. How might Jesus respond to your criticism?

—Charles R. Boatman

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