

Mary & Martha's Lesson

Week of Feb. 17 - 23, 2020

Introduction

Today's lesson presents two very ordinary events in Jesus' life. In the first, he is welcomed with warm hospitality. However, he has more to give than his hosts expect. In the second event, Jesus generously shares simple words to help us pray. We are well fed when we listen to Jesus. We are well connected when we repeat Jesus' words.

Lesson Luke 10:38-11:4

38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. **39** She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. **40** But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, **42** but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

11 One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

2 He said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.

3 Give us each day our daily bread. **4** Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.

And lead us not into temptation.'"

Questions

1. We all have busy schedules. Driving kids places, helping aging parents, work, cleaning the house, preparing meals. Do you have a time set aside to look at and read God's word and to simply be with him? Listening and doing are both needed. Serving him means continually getting to know him better. Are you trying to serve God with your busyness and not stopping for time with him?
2. We have good intentions when we are so busy. You may ask how things get done if you are not busy doing them. Time is needed for rebuilding and becoming still with God. If your life is busy and hectic right now, how can you change that? Is there one thing you need to eliminate from your schedule?
3. Can you think of a time when you invited guests over to your home and you did not even get to visit with the invitees? How can you be sure to plan ahead so you can have time to listen and talk to those you invite over to your home?
4. We are requested to do many things in life. Is it hard to say no when someone is going to make your schedule even more hectic? Do you need to learn how to say no sometimes?
5. We do not need to worry, if we have God's love. Martha was preparing for Jesus to visit. She needed to take time to be with him instead of being so busy with the

preparations. Jesus taught many things like prayer (the Lord's prayer). He also used this opportunity to suggest to Mary and Martha what was important. The Lord's prayer connects with the story of Mary and Martha in what way?

6. How have you felt if someone who loves you gives you a suggestion of how to do things better? Jesus was inviting Martha to sit and listen to him as well. Can you "sit at Jesus' feet" reading the scriptures or praying?
7. Can you make a conscious effort when your friends are invited over, to really listen to them and be with them?

Prayer

Dear Lord,

Please help me to look at my schedule and put in time for you. Thank you for reminding me with this passage how important it is to be with God instead of being so busy that I forgot to fit you in. Can you please help me to say no when I need to? Please help me each day as I work, to free up my schedule, to talk and be with you, my family and friends by really listening. Amen