

There's Something About Martha

Luke 10:38-42

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Jan. 23, 2022

I. You can't overstate the importance of personal time spent with Jesus — just you & Him!

Luke 10:42 “But one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”

A. Hearing from God provides what you & I need for our lives.

Luke 10:42 “But one thing is necessary. **Mary has chosen the good portion**, which will not be taken away from her.”

Deuteronomy 8:3 “And He humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but **man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**”

B. The Lord and His Word is the only truly “timeless” thing we have.

Luke 10:42 “But one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, **which will not be taken away from her.**”

Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.”

C. The Lord rewards those who seek Him in private, on their own time, when only He sees and only He knows.

Matthew 6:3-4 “But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ **so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.**”

Matthew 6:6 “But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and **pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.**”

Matthew 6:17-18 “But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ that your fasting may not be seen by others but **by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.**”

D. Never underestimate the correlation between **quality** of time and **quantity** of time.

1 Chronicles 16:11 “Seek the Lord and His strength; **seek His presence continually!**”

II. Whether your work for Jesus is worship of Jesus is mostly up to you.

Luke 10:40 “But Martha was **distracted** with much serving...”

The Greek word translated **distracted** is “*periespao*” which means “to be dragged away mentally;” “to be driven about mentally.”

Martha’s error wasn’t in serving. It was the fact that she was only serving. She was just serving and, therefore, her mindset was only focused on the tasks at hand and not on the One Whom she was serving: Jesus!

Romans 12:1 “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to **present your bodies as a living sacrifice**, holy and acceptable to God, **which is your spiritual worship.**”

III. The more time you spend at Jesus’ feet, the more time you’ll spend on your feet in ministry to others!

A. The more time you spend with Jesus, the more your faith in Him will grow!

John 11:21-27 “Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now **I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You.**’ ²³ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ ²⁴ Martha said to Him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ ²⁵ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?’ ²⁷ She said to Him, ‘**Yes, Lord; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.**’”

B. The more time you spend with Jesus, the more time you’ll spend in ministry serving Him and His!

John 12:1-2 “Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² So they gave a dinner for Him there. **Martha served**, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with Him at table.”

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:

1. Pastor Peter said “If you don’t have a ‘sitting plan,’ you’ll never spend consistent time with Jesus. It won’t happen on its own.” How do you spend time with Jesus when it’s just you & Him?
2. What correlation have you seen between the quantity of time and the quality of the time you spend with the Lord?
3. What impact should the timelessness of God’s Word have on our approach to Bible intake and personal prayer?
4. When Pastor Peter said, “Whether or not your work for Jesus is worship of Jesus is mostly up to you,” what did he mean?
5. As you’ve continued to spend time at Jesus’ feet, how has that impacted the time you spend on your feet in ministry to others?