

Following Jesus
34, The Best Thing to Do
Luke 10:38-42

I. Message

a. **Martha was wanting to please Jesus - v.38**

- i. Martha received Jesus into her house
 1. Luke uses the compound word “hyper-greet”
 2. And she wanted to please Him with her hospitality
 3. That is a good thing
- ii. But wanting to please Jesus was not the problem
- iii. Working hard for Jesus was not the problem
- iv. Her problem was WORRY

b. **Martha was worried about the wrong things - v.41**

- i. “anxious” and “disturbed”
- ii. “frustrated and bothered”
- iii. What was she so worried about?
 1. Incompleteness
 - a. Martha was a list-checker
 - b. Martha was focused on getting everything done
 - i. “Cumbered with much serving” – 40
 - ii. Distracted with doing
 - iii. Over-burdened by her own expectations
 - c. Frustrated by the fact that there is always more to do
 - i. This is especially in the context of ministry
 - ii. The work of Jesus is NEVER done
 - d. And there is always something to distract us
 - i. Even good things
 - ii. But especially if you are task-oriented person
 - iii. **Mark 4:18-19**
 2. Indifference
 - a. Her Lord not caring
 - b. **“...and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care...”**
 - c. Didn’t the Lord see or care?
 - i. **Hebrews 4:15-16**
 - ii. Martha doubted Jesus’ goodness in this situation

3. Indolence

- a. Her sister not working – lazy, slothful, incompetent
- b. This is a big one for us!
- c. **“...and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that**

she help me.”

- d. Ever find yourself irritated with other believers for NOT serving Jesus with as much energy and passion as YOU do?
- e. That was part of Martha’s worry problem

f. **2 Corinthians 10:12**

- i. Paul was not interested in comparing ministry
- ii. He was interested in doing as much for Christ as His gifts would allow
- iii. Comparing himself with others would only make him “unwise” – v.12

iv. **John 15:1-8**

- g. Martha was worried about incompleteness, indifference, and indolence
 - i. Mary was soaking up as much truth as she could!
 - ii. **“42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.”**
 - iii. What was “needful”?
 - iv. What was “the good part”?
 - v. What priority did Jesus commend? – v.39
 - 1. She sat at Jesus’ feet
 - 2. And heard His word

II. Conclusions and applications

- a. Application #1 – Be WITH Jesus before you do FOR Jesus
 - i. Sitting with Jesus and hearing His Word is more important than frenzied service
 - ii. How do you actually spend time with Jesus?
 - 1. Scripture memory is best! – Philippians 2, Eph.1
 - 2. Worship music is another
 - 3. Prayer walks with no phone
- b. Application #2 – Don’t focus on the lack of ministry from others
 - i. We have such a tendency to do this
 - ii. And yet their service to Jesus is between them and Him!
 - iii. **John 21:18-23**
- c. Application #3 – Make much of T-truth
 - i. What keeps you from sitting at Jesus’ feet and taking in his truth?
 - ii. Maybe you are here in body, but your mind is on work
 - iii. Choose the best part, the needful thing, the one priority: sitting at Jesus’ feet and hearing His Word