



## STORY

Mary and Martha - Luke 10, 38-42

## TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Lord Jesus, grant that the door to my heart may always be open to welcome You to dwell there. Open my lips to make You known in all Your graciousness to the children in my care so that You may come and dwell in their hearts. Amen.

## VOCABULARY

### OUTER AIM

Jesus welcomed into the home of Martha and Mary

### INNER AIM

**BACKGROUND** *Rupprecht Bible History References, Vol. 2, pp. 236 ff.*

Jesus and His disciples were on the way from Perea (land east of the Jordan river) to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of the Dedication of the Temple. This festival had its beginnings some 160 years before the birth of Christ. It was also called the Festival of Lights. It is still observed by the Jews today. It is called Hanukkah. As they journeyed, the disciples, and perhaps Lazarus, with them went on to Jerusalem; Jesus stayed behind in Bethany at the home of Martha and Mary. This was a home that the Lord entered often and to which He enjoyed going.

. 38 received him - welcomed him not as a stranger, but as one highly regarded

. 39 Mary sat at Jesus' feet listening intently to all He said. One can well imagine that He opened the Old Testament Scriptures to her to see in Him their fulfillment. (cf. The Emaus Disciples)

. 40 Martha was concerned about feeding the Lord. He was true man as well as true God; He did need food and drink. The two sisters saw in Jesus two different sides of his nature. Mary saw the Lord Who could teach. Martha saw the Lord Who needed to be served. Martha was frustrated and expected Mary to help her.

. 41 The Savior chides: "Martha, Martha"

. 42 Mary's choice of being served was very much in place. There is a time to be served, but there is also a time to serve.

### STUDENT PRAYER TLH #286, v. 1 and 6

How precious is the Book Divine, By inspiration given;  
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine To guide our souls to heaven.

This lamp through all the tedious night, Of life shall guide our way  
Till we behold the clearer light Of an eternal day.

## **PRESENTATION**

Briefly review previous story as time allows. Make links to the new story when possible. Tell the story: Teachers, be encouraged to tell the story in your own words while remaining faithful to the scriptural account. When scripture records the story in more than one place, you may want to harmonize the accounts (including extra details found in each account). Let the students know where they can find the additional details in the Bible.

Discuss the story: While reviewing the major events of the story, discuss the possible applications to the students' lives. Ask questions that make them think about the story and show that they understand the story.

## **APPLICATION**

As Jesus blessed the family in Bethany, so you will want Him to:

- .bless your heart and home with His presence
- .bless your heart and home with His instruction
- .bless your heart and home with His correction

## **PASSAGES**

**These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.**

### Lower

Luke 11:28 - “.blessed are those who hear the Word of God, and keep it.”

Samuel 3:9 - “.Speak, Lord; for Your servant hears.”

### Middle

Luke 11:28 - “.blessed are those who hear the Word of God, and keep it.”

Samuel 3:9 - “.Speak, Lord; for Your servant hears.”

Luke 19:5 - “.today I must stay at your house.”

### Upper

Luke 11:28 - “.blessed are those who hear the Word of God, and keep it.”

Samuel 3:9 - “.Speak, Lord; for Your servant hears.”

Luke 19:5 - “.today I must stay at your house.”

Luke 24:29 - “Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And He went in to stay with them.”

## **HYMN CHOICES**

The Lord My Pasture Shall Prepare - TLH 368, vs. 1-4

The Savior Calls; Let Every Ear - TLH 281, vs. 1-5

# Mary & Martha

Luke 10

## The Story

Parents: Review this lesson with your child.

Not far from Jerusalem, there was a little village called Bethany. Jesus had special friends who lived there. They were sisters, named Mary and Martha. Their brother, Lazarus, also lived with them.

One day when Jesus came to Bethany, Martha invited Him to come to their house for a meal.

Martha was very busy preparing the meal for Jesus. She wanted to show her love for Him by cooking a good meal.

While Martha was working, Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to every word He said. He was teaching her the Word of God.

Martha thought that Mary should be helping her with the meal. There was a lot of work to be done. Martha thought that cooking a good meal was more important than just sitting and listening to Jesus.

Finally, Martha came to Jesus and said, "Don't You care that my sister is just sitting there while I'm doing all the work by myself? Please tell her to come and help me."

But Jesus said, "Martha, Martha, you are worried about many things, but Mary is doing the most important thing. She is listening to the Word of God, and she will always remember what she has learned. No one can ever take that away from her."

Hearing the Word of God is more important than anything else that we do in this life. We need to try to be more like Mary, and always hear and learn God's Word whenever we can.

**Hearing God's Word was the most important thing for Mary.**

**Hearing God's Word is the most important thing for us too.**

## Passages

Luke 11:28 - Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

## Hymn - TLH #285 st. 1

How precious is the Book Divine,  
By inspiration giv'n!  
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine  
To guide our souls to heav'n.

## Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus,  
Help us to be more like Mary and always be happy to hear and learn Your Word whenever we have a chance. We know that You will bless us through the hearing of Your Word. We need to put You first in our lives, because You are the way to eternal life. Amen



**Classroom Activity** - Listen to the following sentences. If the sentence is true, color the happy face. If it is not true, color the sad face.



1. Mary and Martha were sisters.



2. Martha wanted to serve Jesus by preparing a meal.



3. Mary should have helped Martha with the meal.



4. It was all right for Martha to get angry at Mary.



5. Mary chose the best thing to do.



6. We should be more like Mary.



7. It's all right to stay home from church and cook a meal for the pastor.



8. God's Word is the most important thing in our life.

**Classroom Activity** - There are many places where we can hear and learn the Word of God. Find these and circle them.



**Classroom Art Activity** - Color and decorate this refrigerator magnet. Glue on magnetic strip (or cut apart free magnets that come with junk mail.)



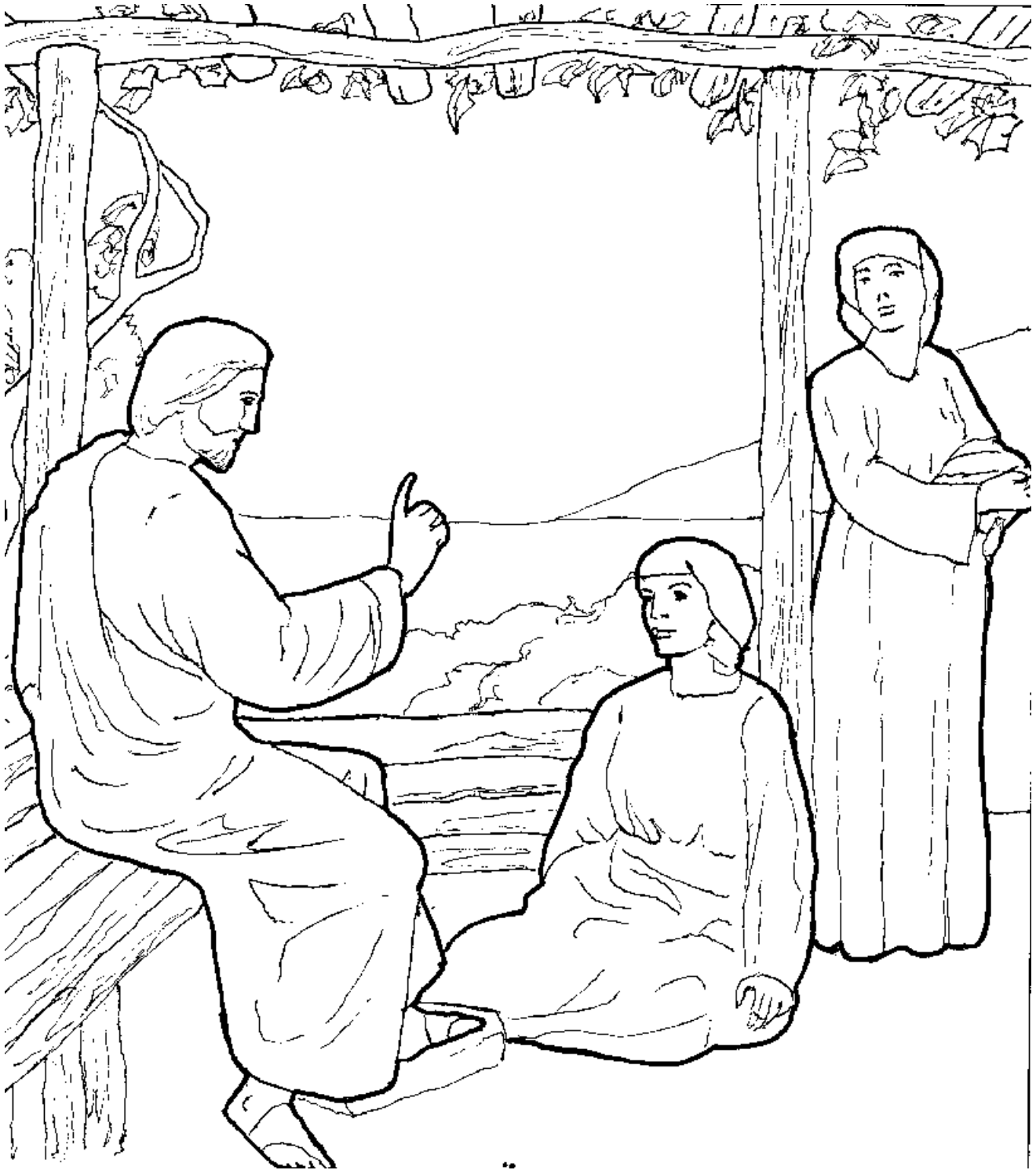
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# Mary & Martha

Luke 10



Hearing God's Word was the most important thing for Mary.

## The Story

Not far from Jerusalem, there was a little village called Bethany. Jesus had special friends who lived there. They were sisters, named Mary and Martha. Their brother, Lazarus, also lived with them.

One day when Jesus came to Bethany, Martha invited Him to come to their house for a meal.

Martha was very busy preparing the meal for Jesus. She wanted to show her love for Him by cooking a good meal.

While Martha was working, Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to every word He said. He was teaching her the Word of God.

Martha thought that Mary should be helping her with the meal. There was a lot of work to be done. Martha thought that cooking a good meal was more important than just sitting and listening to Jesus.

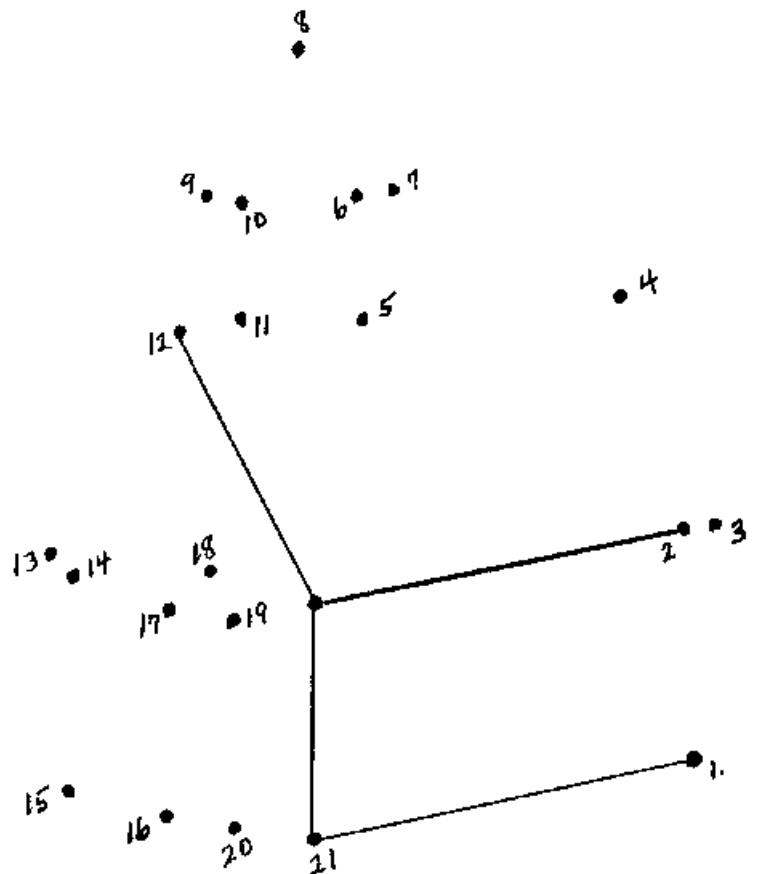
Finally, Martha came to Jesus and said, "Don't You care that my sister is just sitting there while I'm doing all the work by myself? Please tell her to come and help me."

But Jesus said, "Martha, Martha, you are worried about

many things, but Mary is doing the most important thing. She is listening to the Word of God, and she will always remember what she has learned. No one can ever take that away from her."

Hearing the Word of God is more important than anything else that we do in this life. We need to try to be more like Mary, and always hear and learn God's Word whenever we can.

**Activity One** - Connect the dots to see one of the places where we can sit at Jesus' feet and hear His Word. Color the picture.





**Activity Two** - Listen to the following sentences. If the sentence is true, color the happy face. If it is not true, color the sad face.



1. Mary and Martha were sisters.



2. Martha wanted to serve Jesus by preparing a meal.



3. Mary should have helped Martha with the meal.



4. It was all right for Martha to get angry at Mary.



5. Mary chose the best thing to do.



6. We should be more like Mary.



7. It's all right to stay home from church and cook a meal for the pastor.



8. God's Word is the most important thing in our life.

**Activity Three** - There are many places where we can hear and learn the Word of God. Find these and circle them.



**Hearing God's Word is the most important thing for us.**

## Passages

Luke 11:28 - Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

## Hymn

 - TLH #285 st. 1

How precious is the Book Divine,  
By inspiration giv'n!  
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## Prayer

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# Mary & Martha

Luke 10:38-42



Hearing God's Word was the most important thing for Mary.



## The Story

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Then Jesus said, "Martha, Martha, you are worried about many things, but Mary is doing the most important thing. She is listening to the Word of God, and she will always remember what she has learned. No one can ever take that away from her."

Hearing the Word of God is more important than anything else that we do in this life. We need to try to be more like Mary and always hear and learn God's Word whenever we can.

**Activity One** - Read the following sentences. If the sentence is true, write 'Yes' on the line. If the sentence is not true, write 'No' on the line.

1. \_\_\_\_ Mary and Martha were sisters.
2. \_\_\_\_ Martha wanted to serve Jesus by preparing a meal.
3. \_\_\_\_ Mary should have helped Martha with the meal.
4. \_\_\_\_ It was all right for Martha to get angry at Mary.
5. \_\_\_\_ Mary chose the best thing to do.
6. \_\_\_\_ We should be more like Mary.

7. \_\_\_\_ It's all right to stay home from church and cook a meal for the pastor.

8. \_\_\_\_ God's Word is the most important thing in our life.

9. \_\_\_\_ We don't have many chances to hear God's Word.

**Activity Two** - The following are sets of activities. Put a 1 by the more important activity and a 2 by the less important.

- |               |                        |                                       |
|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ____ eating   | ____ watching TV       | ____ cleaning your room               |
| ____ devotion | ____ going to VBS      | ____ going to church                  |
| ____ praying  | ____ reading the Bible | ____ talking to friends about clothes |
| ____ playing  | ____ reading a book    | ____ talking to friends about Jesus   |

**Activity Three** - There are many places where we can hear and learn the Word of God. Find these and circle them.



Hearing God's Word is the most important thing for us.

## Passages

Luke 11:28 - Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

## Hymn - TLH #285 v. 1, 4

Discuss the words: *Book Divine, inspiration, doctrines, tedious night of life, eternal day*

How precious is the Book Divine,  
By inspiration given!  
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine  
To guide our souls to heav'n.

This lamp through all our tedious night  
Of life shall guide our way  
Till we behold the clearer light  
Of an eternal day.

## Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus,

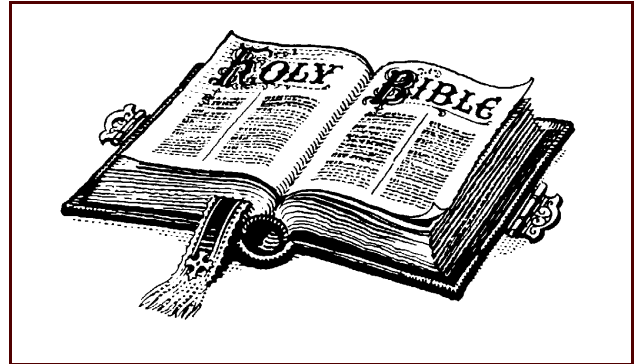
Help us to be more like Mary and always be happy to hear and learn Your Word whenever we have a chance. We know that You will bless us through the hearing of Your Word. We need to put You first in our lives, because You are the way to eternal life. Amen

# Mary & Martha

Luke 10:38-42

If Jesus came to visit you, what would you do? Would you clean the house, cook a fancy meal, or just sit and talk with Him?

In our story today you will meet two sisters who invited Jesus to their home. They both loved Him and wanted to serve Him. Let's find out which one chose the best way to serve her Lord.



## Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, as we study Your Word today, help us to be like Mary, eager to hear every word and happy to have this opportunity to learn more about You. We pray that You would open our hearts as Your Word is taught so that our faith will grow and be strengthened. Bless our study today. In Your name we pray. Amen

## The Story

Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house.

{39} And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. {40} But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

{41} And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are

worried and troubled about many things. {42} "But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

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**Outer Aim - Hearing God's Word was the most important thing for Mary.**

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## What the Story Tells Us - Discuss the following questions.

1. Was it wrong for Martha to spend time preparing a meal for her Lord? Why or why not?
2. Was it wrong for Martha to become angry at Mary for not helping her? Why or why not?
3. When do we sit at Jesus' feet and have a chance to hear and learn His Word?
4. What are some of the things that might keep us from gladly hearing Jesus' word?
5. Why is the study of God's Word more important than anything else?

## What God's Word Tells Us - Cross out the wrong word in each sentence, and write the correct word on the line.

1. Jesus went to visit Mary and Martha who lived in Bethlehem.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. When Jesus started teaching the Word of God, Mary sat and slept.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Martha did not listen to Jesus' words because she was busy eating a meal.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Martha thought that Mary should be listening. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Jesus said, "Martha, there is only one thing that is very important, and that is my dinner." \_\_\_\_\_



6. Jesus said, "Mary has chosen the bad part which shall never be taken away from her." \_\_\_\_\_
7. It is hard for us to watch TV instead of reading and studying God's Word.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. God wants us to sleep late or to go fishing on Sunday mornings rather than going to church. \_\_\_\_\_
9. God says that hearing His Word is less important than other things.  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Through the Word of God the Holy Spirit works doubt in our hearts. \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Turn** - Use your Bibles to look up the following Bible verses and match them to the phrase that fits them best. Put the correct letter in the blank.

**A.** 1 Peter 2:2    **B.** 2 Timothy 3:15 - 16    **C.** Romans 10:17    **D.** Luke 11:28

\_\_\_\_\_ You will be happy if you hear the Word of God and also hold on to it.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Word of God creates faith in the hearts of hearers.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Bible is the word of God, not just the words of men.

\_\_\_\_\_ We should be hungry for the Word of God.

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**Inner Aim** - Hearing God's Word is the most important thing for His people.

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## Passages

Luke 11:28 - Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!

2 Timothy 3:15 - From childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

## Hymn - TLH #285

Discuss the words: *Book Divine, inspiration, doctrines, trod, grace, tedious night of life, eternal day*

How precious is the Book Divine,  
By inspiration given!  
Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine  
To guide our souls to heav'n.

It shows to man his wand'ring ways  
And where his feet have trod,  
And brings to view the matchless grace  
Of a forgiving God.

Its light, descending from above  
Our gloomy world to cheer,  
Displays a Savior's boundless love  
And brings His glories near.

This lamp through all our tedious night  
Of life shall guide our way  
Till we behold the clearer light  
Of an eternal day.

## Prayer

Lord Jesus, make us eager to serve You as Mary and Martha did. Forgive us for the times we have neglected to hear and learn Your Word as we should. Help us realize how important Your Word is, so that we will choose it above other things as Mary did. Send Your Holy Spirit to strengthen our faith through the hearing of Your Word so that we will always put You first in our lives. Make us faithful hearers of Your Word. Amen.

# Mary & Martha

Luke 10:38-42

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**Outer Aim - Hearing God's Word was the most important thing for Mary.**



**What the Story Tells Us** - Discuss the following questions.

1. Was it wrong for Martha to spend time preparing a meal for her Lord? Why or why not?
2. Was it wrong for Martha to become angry at Mary for not helping her? Why or why not?
3. Do you think that Martha was surprised that Jesus didn't make Mary help her?
4. When do we sit at Jesus' feet and have a chance to hear and learn His Word?
5. What are some of the things that might keep us from gladly hearing Jesus' word?
6. Why is the study of God's Word more important than anything else?

**What God's Word Tells Us** - Cross out the wrong word in each sentence, and write the correct word on the line.

1. Jesus went to visit Mary and Martha who lived in Bethlehem. \_\_\_\_\_
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4. Martha thought that Mary should be listening. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Jesus said, "Martha, there is only one thing that is very important, and that is my dinner." \_\_\_\_\_
6. Jesus said, "Mary has chosen the bad part which shall never be taken away from her." \_\_\_\_\_
7. It is hard for us to watch TV instead of reading and studying God's Word. \_\_\_\_\_
8. God wants us to sleep late or to go fishing on Sunday mornings rather than going to church. \_\_\_\_\_
9. God says that hearing His Word is less important than other things. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Through the Word of God the Holy Spirit works doubt in our hearts. \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Turn** - Use your Bibles to look up the following Bible verses and match them to the phrase that fits them best. Put the correct letter in the blank.

**A.** 1 Peter 2:2    **B.** 2 Timothy 3:15 - 16    **C.** Romans 10:17    **D.** Luke 11:28

\_\_\_\_\_ You will be happy if you hear the Word of God and also hold on to it.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Word of God creates faith in the hearts of hearers.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Bible is the word of God, not just the words of men.

\_\_\_\_\_ We should be hungry for the Word of God.

**Some Things to Think About** - We need to learn from Mary and make the right choices in our lives. Talk about what we should choose in each of these situations in order to be more like Mary.

1. My baseball team has a game tonight, but we also have a Lenten service at church. What should I do?
2. My favorite TV show is on tonight, but I still haven't learned my memory work for school (or Sunday school). What should I do?
3. My friend asked me to spend the night at his house on Saturday, but his/her family doesn't attend church. What should I do?
4. I like to sit with my friends in church, but sometimes we talk or write notes instead of listening to the sermon. What should I do?
5. I have a chance to go camping with my friend this summer, but it is the same week that VBS is scheduled. What should I do?

**Inner Aim** - Hearing God's Word is the most important thing for His people.

## Passages

Luke 11:28 - Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!

2 Timothy 3:15 - From childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Romans 10:17 - So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

## Hymn - TLH 366

Wilt thou find this one thing needful, Turn from all created things  
Unto Jesus and be heedful of the blessed joy He brings.  
For where God and Man both in one are united,  
With God's perfect fulness the heart is delighted;  
There, there is the worthiest lot and the best,  
My One and my All, and my Joy and my Rest.

How were Mary's tho'ts devoted Her eternal joy to find  
As intent each word she noted, At her Savior's feet reclined!  
How kindled her heart, how devout was its feeling,  
While hearing the lessons that Christ was revealing!  
For Jesus all earthly concerns she forgot,  
And all was repaid in that one happy lot.

## Prayer

Lord Jesus, make us eager to serve You as Mary and Martha did. Forgive us for the times we have neglected to hear and learn Your Word as we should. Help us realize how important Your Word is, so that we will choose it above other things as Mary did. Send Your Holy Spirit to strengthen our faith through the hearing of Your Word so that we will always put You first in our lives. Make us faithful hearers of Your Word. Amen.