

# Does the Church need Martha(s)?

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SCOTT SWEETLAND,  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR, NHCC



## Scripture Reading, Luke 10:38-42

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**<sup>38</sup> As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. <sup>40</sup> 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!"**



Scripture Reading, Luke 10:38-42 cont.

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**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.”**

# Classical View of Mary & Martha story<sup>4</sup>


## Mary

- ▶ Listened/Absorbed
- ▶ Sat down/rested
- ▶ Humble
- ▶ Focused on one thing
- ▶ Free/peaceful
- ▶ Trusting Jesus
- ▶ Concerned with Godly things
- ▶ Welcomed Jesus into her heart

## Martha

- ▶ Talked/Commanded
- ▶ Rushed around/busy
- ▶ Indignant
- ▶ Unfocused
- ▶ Hindered/worried
- ▶ Trusted her own abilities
- ▶ Concerned with worldly things
- ▶ Welcomed Jesus into her home

# Scripture Reading, Luke 14: 12-14



<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid.<sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

# Scripture Reading, James 2:14-17

**<sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good (or benefit) is that? <sup>17</sup> So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.**

# What are the Lessons learned from Martha and Mary? 7

- ▶ Hospitality is a matter of the heart!!
- ▶ Martha shows hospitality

Lesson learned: the gift of hospitality is something we can all offer when the company shows up on our front porch.

- ▶ The comparison trap is a trap

Lesson learned: We are all unique. Whether you are a Mary or a Martha, both women are valuable and have a purpose.

- ▶ Our priorities matter

Lesson learned: It is essential to make time to sit at the feet of Jesus.



# We all have different Gifts to Serve the Kingdom

**Romans 12:6-8: “Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.”**





We all have different Gifts to Serve the Kingdom

**1 Peter 4:10-11: “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen”**

# Does the Church Need Martha(s)?

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- ▶ Strive to be a good combination of Mary and Martha
- ▶ Your heart and attitude matters!
- ▶ What Mary and Martha gifts do you have to share for the Kingdom and to glorify God?
- ▶ What will you do to make time to sit at the feet of Jesus?
- ▶ Will you choose “Others-Centered” Living?
- ▶ Thank you for all the Martha’s out there that work with Jesus in their hearts!

YES!!! The Church needs YOU!!!