



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - February 10, 2013

Sermon

Conversations with Jesus-
Who did Jesus talk with
and what does this teach
us?

Mary & Martha

Luke 10:38-42

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember
about this sermon...

Monday 2/11/13

Luke 10:38

Jesus and his followers continue on their way after he told the parable of The Good Samaritan. He enters a village, which we learn is Bethany, the home of Martha & Mary. Martha welcomes Jesus into her home. Martha's show of hospitality is refreshing and serves as an example of how we should always be ready and willing to host Jesus in our homes. If Jesus came knocking on your door today would you be ready to welcome him in?

Tuesday 2/12/13

Luke 10:39

Martha had a sister named Mary. She was in the same house and she plopped herself down at the feet of Jesus and listened to what he was saying. Mary did two important actions here: sit and listen. Are you sitting at the feet of Jesus? Are you close enough to Jesus to listen? Sometimes we talk too much in our prayer life and we forget to listen. Spend some time today listening to God and be a little more like Mary who sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to him.

Wednesday 2/13/13

Luke 10:40

Martha was busy serving as host to Jesus. She probably had a million and one things to do! A host does have a lot to do in being hospitable to a guest. She felt rushed and she had so much to do. So she asked Jesus to back her up and get her lazy sister to help her! Oh, isn't sibling rivalry nice? Martha appears to be annoyed with Mary because she is not helping her with all the necessary tasks, so she asks Jesus to back her up and support her in an effort to get Mary involved in the hard work. Martha said to Jesus: "Tell her then to help me."



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

Are you more like Martha or more like Mary?

Spend some quality time listening for the voice and direction of Jesus.

Consider all the busy tasks you do every day. Can you give up one or two?

Learn to listen!

Thursday 2/14/13
Luke 10:41

But Jesus noticed that Martha was distracted by so many of these details and was truly missing out on the visit with him. How many times are we with people but fail to fully experience the joy of truly being with them? Jesus says, "Martha, Martha..." using her name twice! This was probably said to alert Martha and get her undivided attention. Then Jesus said she was too distracted by her tasks. How many times do we get distracted in our busyness? Sometimes we have to be like Mary and learn to slow down. Otherwise, we will miss many important conversations.

Friday 2/15/13
Luke 10:42

Jesus continues: "...there is need of only thing." This phrase has created a lot of theological discussions about exactly what Jesus means here. Many scholars believe that Jesus is suggesting that the "only thing" or most important thing here is listening to Jesus. After all, Jesus was on his journey to Jerusalem and this would be the last time Martha and Mary would see Jesus before the crucifixion. Don't take daily conversations for granted!

Saturday 2/16/13
Luke 10:38-42

Read this short passage again, carefully and slowly. What words stick out before your eyes? What phrases do you think are the most important? Are you distracted by the many things you are doing in your life? Or are you slowing down to sit at the feet of Jesus to listen to him? Life certainly has a way of getting busier and busier. Martha enjoyed the service of hospitality. But none of our works should get in the way of a good conversation with Jesus. Talk some time to pray in these moments and spend more time listening!