

# Only One Thing is Needed

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – November 23, 2008

## Luke 10:38-42

38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called **Mary**, who **sat at the Lord's feet** listening to what he said. 40 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!" 41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but **only one thing is needed**. Mary has chosen **what is better**, and it will not be taken away from her."

What can we learn from Christ's response to Mary and Martha?

## 1. **SERVING CHRIST IS A GOOD THING, BUT IT'S NOT OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE**

It's not that serving Christ was a bad thing that Martha did, it's that she was **DISTRACTED** by it.

40 But **Martha was distracted** by all the preparations that had to be made.

42 ... Jesus said, "Mary has chosen **what is better**, and it will not be taken away from her."

One was **physical** and had value for this **life**...

The other was **spiritual** and had **eternal** value.

1 Timothy 4:8

For physical training is of some value, **but godliness has value for all things**, holding promise **for both the present life and the life to come**.

Nourishment for our **bodies** is important, but nourishment for our **souls** is of utmost importance and can only be obtained through **Christ**.

## 2. **ONLY ONE THING IS NEEDED—INTIMACY WITH JESUS CHRIST**

41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but **only one thing is needed**...

Serving Christ is a good thing, but it's not the **ONE** thing.

The ONE thing is **sitting** at the **feet** of Jesus.

Matthew 6:33

But **seek first his kingdom and his righteousness**, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Revelation 2:2-5

2 **I know your deeds**, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. 3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. 4 **Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love**. 5 Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.

You have **forsaken** your **first love**...ME!

Only **one thing** is **needed**...ME!

**Worship ME! Adore ME! Seek ME!**

And all other things will be **given** to you.

Are we too busy **serving** Him rather than **adoring** Him?

Jesus said to Martha,

41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but **only one thing is needed.**

What would Jesus say to us?

"Jeff, Jeff, you're worried and upset about many things...

but only One thing is Needed."