

Luke 10:38-42

At the Home of Martha and Mary

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."

Luke 11:1-13

Jesus' Teaching on Prayer

¹ One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

² He said to them, "When you pray, say:

" 'Father,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come.

[some manuscripts add: "may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"]

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ Forgive us our sins,
for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.
And lead us not into temptation.' "

[some manuscripts add: "and deliver us from evil (or the evil one)]

⁵ Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶ because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.'

⁷ "Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

⁹ "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Luke 10:38 - 11:13

1. What is your home like shortly before guests arrive?
2. What did Mary do while Martha attended to household preparations? (10:39)
3. Of what did Martha accuse her sister? Of what did she accuse Jesus? (10:40) If you had been Martha in this situation, how would you have responded to your sister's actions?
4. Why did Jesus favor Mary's choice? Was Jesus dissing Martha? What's the lesson in this story for us today?
5. Verses 11:1-13 focus on three aspects of prayer. What are they?
Verses 11:2-4 _____
Verses 11:5-10 _____
Verses 11:11-14 _____
6. What four elements should be in our prayers? (Remember ACTS)
A _____
C _____
T _____
S _____
7. In Jesus' model prayer, what two concerns related to God come first? Why? What personal concerns then follow?
8. How do prayer and forgiveness relate?
9. Have you ever turned down a request from a friend to do something and then changed your mind because he kept asking? What is the point of the parable in Verses 11:7-8?
10. What occupies most of your time in prayer: praise, confession, thanksgiving, or petition (requests)? Why? In what area do you want to grow?
11. When have you felt like God was not listening to your prayers? What did or do you do then?
12. What kind of things do we—individually and collectively—usually ask for in prayer? What is the most important gift the Father could ever give us? (Vs 11:3)

4. Jesus did not blame Martha for being concerned about household chores. He was only asking her to set priorities. It is possible for service to God to degenerate into mere busywork that is no longer full of devotion to God.

Question: are you so busy doing things *for* Jesus that you're not spending any time *with* him? Don't let your service become self-serving.

5. Verses 11:1-13 focus on three aspects of prayer. What are they?

Verses 11:2-4 Content of prayer

Verses 11:5-10 Our persistence

Verses 11:11-14 God's faithfulness in answering prayer

6. Acclamation – Confession – Thanksgiving – Supplication