

Getting the Balance Between a Mary Moment and a Martha Day

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Luke 10:38-42

38. And as they went, it happened that He entered into a certain village. And a certain woman named Martha received 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 preoccupied with much serving. And she came to 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 anxious and troubled about many things.
42. But one thing is needful, and Mary has chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

This event had happened before Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. It must have been so exciting for Martha and Mary to have Jesus as a visitor at their house, and as expected Martha was rushing around making everything comfortable for her distinguished visitor. Mary, on the other hand, was seated at Jesus' feet enjoying the proximity of his visit. Looking a bit stressed, Martha appeals to the Lord to make Mary get up and help with the serving. Jesus replied, Martha, Martha you are busy with many things but Mary has chosen the good part and it will not be taken from her.

**There was nothing wrong with Martha!
There was nothing wrong with Mary!
How do we know the balance between the two?**

1. Our busy life constantly makes us live a syndrome of "Martha day"

- We are always worried about something: house, car, food, dresses, bills, etc
- Nothing wrong with having a busy life, to feel useful, producing something
- A person without work is a person without honor

Matthew 6:31-33 (NIV)

31. So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'
32. For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.
33. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

2. The danger of the Idleness

- An Idle life is not healthy. We need to keep our brain and body working
- An easy life, without putting our effort onto anything is a very poor life
- People who live of benefits but have a perfect health, become useless and lazy

Proverbs 6:6 (NIV)

Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!

John 5:17 (NIV)

Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working.

2 Thessalonians 3:10 (NIV)

For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat."

3. Finding a balance in our life

- We need to have a time to work but never forget our Relationship with God
- We should value our time in God's Presence and not dividing our attention
- Jesus' Presence is the most important time in our life

Psalm 84:3, 4, 10 (NIV)

3. Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young—a place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God.
4. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you. Selah
10. Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

Mary always surprising others doing something different

John 12:3

¹Six days before the Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³Then Mary took about a pint^[a] of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.