

The Contemplative Life

Luke 10:38-42 (NIV)

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."

Mary

- _____
- Hanging on every Word of Jesus
- Defined by her connection with and in Christ

Martha

- _____
- Worried and stressed with issues of life
- Defined by her work and what she accomplishes...

Mary ←————→ Martha

Psalm 1:1-6 (NIV)

¹ Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers.

² But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

Luke 10:25-28 (NIV)

²⁵ *On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"*

²⁶ *"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"*

²⁷ *He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

²⁸ *"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."*

Luke 15:20 (NIV)

²⁰ *So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.*

This Week

Recommended passages to read and meditate on:

- Psalms 103:1-22
- Micah 7:18-19
- Ephesians 3:14-21

Memorize:

⁸ The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹ He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever;

¹⁰ he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalm 103:8-12 (NIV)