

Serving Without Distraction

(Luke 10:38-42)

- Introduction:
1. Service doesn't come naturally; typically we desire to be served rather than to serve others.
 2. In order to overcome this tendency, we need to learn to avoid a few common distractions.
 3. These distractions can be clearly seen in the account concerning Jesus' visit to Mary and Martha.

I. Martha Was Distracted By Responsibility

- A. Discerning between what is good and what is better is much more difficult than discerning between what is evil and what is good.
 1. (1 Samuel 15:22). To obey is better.
 2. (Psalm 37:16) Little is better than much.
 3. (Matthew 18:6) Better to drown than to cause another to sin.
 4. (2 Peter 2:21) Better to have never known than to turn.
 5. (Proverbs 21:9,19) Better to dwell in corner of roof or in wilderness than with an angry wife.
- B. Have we ever been so busy doing good that we miss Jesus?
- C. We can get too busy with worldly things that spiritual things get set aside.

II. Martha Was Distracted By Resentment

- A. Can't you imagine her frustration with Mary?
- B. Notice that the distraction is with Martha, not Mary.
- C. Sometimes we get too worried about other people. Worry about ourselves.
- D. Ills. (John 21:23).
- E. Ills. But what about... Janie and washing dishes and folding bulletins also Matthew asking why I didn't have to do chores.

III. Martha Was Distracted By Her Short Sightedness.

- A. Ever hear anyone say, "If I had it all to do over again, I wouldn't change a thing."
- B. There are so many things I'd change.
- C. Imagine Martha's regrets? Jesus was in her home and she spent the time in the kitchen.
- D. Can we be so busy working forking for him, we fail to spend time with him?

- Conclusion:
1. Martha seemed to learn her lesson (John 12:1-2).
 - a. She's still serving.
 - b. Mary's still at the feet of Jesus.
 - c. But this time there's no complaint and no rebuke.