

# Make Church a Part of Your Life

## WEEKLY SERMONETTE



### "Sisters Grateful and Fretful"

By Darel Boston, Christian Church, Retired

Luke 10:38-42 records Mary and Martha welcoming Jesus to their home. Mary was GRATEFUL he was there and gave her full attention to his every word. Martha was FRETFUL, attempting to get "all the preparations made", frustrated because Mary was letting her "do the work by myself".

Apparently Martha owned the home. Her sister Mary "sat at the Lord's feet listening". There was so much to do, and Mary just sat!! Talk about aggravating! Her blood was about to boil maybe? Gratitude that Jesus was there? Time to listen to him talk? No way! She was "distracted". Jesus said, "you are worried and upset about many things".

Are we like her? If our whole nation suffers from Martha's flaw, does it really matter that much? It does! Jesus deserves our full attention, and our gratitude. Instead we seem to know Him less as we accumulate more. We own the house one day, but gradually it owns us. We can't be grateful when there's so much to be done! It always needs...

We are SO busy with "all the preparations", that we have neither time nor focus for the Guest! The scriptures wonderfully record His words, His comfort, His perspective on life and eternity,

but we "hear" them seldom because we are fretfully "doing the work by myself".

A young man started a business, prayed for God's blessing, promised God He would faithfully tithe from

his income...and told his preacher. He prospered, the business spawned other businesses, the wealth multiplied fantastically. Finally he contacted the now-elderly preacher; "The tithe has become much too large a commitment. It was alright at the beginning, but now it's into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. It is too much." The preacher offered to pray with him: "O Lord, this man can no longer afford to give a tithe of his earnings; it is too much. Please diminish his earnings so he can afford to remain faithful. Amen"

Are we Martha? Are we the too-prosperous tither? Or are we Mary? Are we grateful to spend time with Jesus? Some have digressed a long way from commitments made when young and faithful. Did opinions on abortion, homosexuality and recreational drugs grow out of time with Jesus? Or have we been too busy "doing the work by myself"? Thanksgiving is a great time to be grateful for Jesus, and to LISTEN to Him through His word.

### Making Plans

Arranging appointments and maintaining busy schedules is an unremitting task; weeks can fly by in a whirlwind of activities. Sometimes, we need to assess our expenditure of time. Are we using it wisely? Is God marked on our calendar? This consideration affects all of our plans; God wants us to make Him a part of each day. Our stress level can decrease as our faith in God's power increases. "In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps" says Proverbs 16:9. Let God help you with your plans, and plan to visit your house of worship every week.

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**Weekly Scripture Reading**

- Judges 2:1-23
- Judges 3:1-31
- Judges 4:1-24
- Judges 5:1-31
- Judges 10:1-18
- Judges 11:1-40
- 1 Samuel 6:20-7:17

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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