

The Tyranny Of The Urgent

Luke 10:38-42

2. That means Listening to the right Voice.

"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." Psalm 46:10

The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12 After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.

1 Kings 19:11-12

3. That means Pursuing right Relationships.

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.'"

Luke 10:27

4. That means Setting right Priorities.

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6:33

**What Martha was doing was Essential;
but what Mary was doing was Eternal.
Don't let the Essential drown out the Eternal.**

How would you answer?

1. When life gets busy, does your time with GOD tend to get pushed aside?
2. When you try to focus on something, do you find that you're easily distracted?
3. Overall, would you (or others) say that you tend to be a worrier?
4. Do you ever feel sorry for yourself?
5. In your opinion, do you think you do more than your fair share of the work?
6. Do you find at times that you are easily angered by others?
7. Would you say that it's easy for you to see others' faults?
8. At times, do you find yourself questioning if GOD really cares about you?

A. Don't Lose Your Focus.

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!"

Luke 10:38-40

Loss of focus can cause you to...

1. Resort to Self - Pity.
2. Become Angry with Others.
3. Find Fault with Others.
4. Question GOD's Care.

B. Choose The Best Over The Good.

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

Luke 10:41-42

1. That means being in the Right Place.

She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said.

Luke 10:39

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Isaiah 55:6-7

Faith@Home

Commit yourself to spending time with GOD and His Word on at least five days this week. Read the Bible passage(s) listed.

Ask GOD for understanding. Reflect on the verses you read and write down your answers to the question(s). Pray that GOD will guide you to walk in His Word.

Day One

Read Luke 10:38-42

1. Who do you identify with more, Martha or Mary? Why?
2. What do you think is GOD's message to us in including this story in the Bible?
3. How will you respond in obedience to what GOD is saying to you in this passage?

Day Two

Read Psalm 37:7 and Psalm 46:10

1. What does it mean to "be still" in the presence of GOD?
2. What do you think the effect might be of regular times of quietness/silence with GOD?
3. Do you discipline yourself to take moments of silence and solitude? If not, are you willing and ready to change that?

Day Three

Read I Kings 19:9-18

1. What do you think it means that "The LORD was not in" the wind, the earthquake, or the fire, but rather in "a gentle whisper?"
2. How does GOD communicate with you?
3. Set aside quiet moments and ask GOD to "speak" to you.

Day Four

Read John 12:1-8

1. Mary was eager to be with Jesus and listen to His words. It led her to a very extravagant act of worship. How would you rate, on a scale of 1 to 10, your hunger to know Jesus and listen to His Word?
2. Does this cause you to want to worship Him extravagantly?
3. What will you do to raise the temperature of your worship?

Day Five

Read Psalm 21

1. According to this Psalm, what do we experience in the LORD's presence?
2. What do you think it means that "through the unfailing love of the Most High," we will not be shaken?
3. Pray for our Sunday worship gathering.