

DAY 10: MARY & MARTHA

“Martha had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made.” -Luke 10:39-40

I couldn’t do a devotional on “preparing” for the Passover Lamb without talking about Jesus’ encounter with Mary and Martha. Now, let’s be honest, if Jesus came into our home, wouldn’t you be doing everything you could to put away the dirty dishes, run the vacuum cleaner, and try to make the best meal you could possibly make? I know I would!

Mary, on the other hand, sat and listened to what Jesus had to say. I have to admit, I’m bummed that we don’t get to hear His teaching here. Was it something we’ve not heard before? Was it new content? Was Jesus going to perform a miracle? And that’s exactly what Mary wanted to know. She was curious. She wanted to learn from this man who was healing people, providing extraordinary teaching, and performing miracles.

I actually love this story because it’s just so real! In fact, I think many of us probably feel for Martha here as she gets her house in order. While Mary is seemingly doing nothing, Martha tells Jesus, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!” Jesus responds, “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.” Don’t you just hate it when Jesus is right and you’re wrong?

In His response to Martha, Jesus has Psalm 27:4 in mind and I’d like to close this day out with a reflection on this verse:

“One thing I ask from the LORD,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.”

Reflection: What is distracting you from spending time with Jesus? How can you try to remove those distractions and spend more time at His feet this week? Write down your responses and spend some extra time meditating on Psalm 27:4 today.
