

Sermon: The Centrality of Christ
Series: Luke: The Good News for Everyone.

Scripture: Luke 10:38-42
Date: November 17, 2024

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Read Genesis 1:27 & 2:15. What is the connection between our being created in God's image and our productivity? Are there any ways that your own productivity has become an idol to you?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Martha was distracted and anxious about many things. What "many things" (good things) tend to distract you personally from keeping Christ at the center of your life? OR...in what ways has your life become "many things" rather than just the "one necessary thing?"

b) In what ways have your distractions become discouragements ("anxious and troubled") and divisions between yourself and others/Jesus?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) In what way is Jesus' response to Martha gracious, even though it was hard to hear? Has Jesus been saying anything to you lately that has been hard to hear, yet gracious?

b) Read Ephesians 3:16-19. Like Jesus in Martha's house, Christ dwells in our hearts now as the host. According to these verses, what are the results of Christ's indwelling in our "heart house?" How can these blessings of Christ cure us of our distraction, discouragement, and division?

APPLICATION

a) How might your life be different if you saw it as "one necessary thing" (Jesus) rather than "many things?" Think about stress, worry, anger, comparisons, cultural expectations, etc.

b) Make a plan to practice hospitality this holiday season. What might it look like? What "many things" do you think would distract you? How can you make it about the one thing – experiencing the love of Jesus?

PRAYER

- Thank God for giving you an identity in himself beyond what you produce.
- Confess ways that you have tried to focus on the many over the ONE.
- Thank Jesus for giving us a life of love that can never be taken away.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to keep Christ central in your life.