

Take Home

1. In the spirit of Martha, what service/support will you offer to someone this week?
2. In the spirit of Mary, share a specific change you will make in the next week to take time from your busy life to spend more time with Jesus.
3. What things would you currently regret about your priorities in life if you were faced with death?

Sermon Outline Answer Key: 2. Received, love.

PRAYER GUIDE

Praise & Thanksgiving

Next Step Ministries

Pray for healing

Curt Johnson, cancer

Diane Lukas

Jim Vander Pas

Pray for

Mary Kay Ogle, job search

Each week we pray for a UMC from our district, this week: Oregon:

People's, their pastor Jon Bartlett and the 462 members.

Chile: Pray for the rescue of trapped Chileans from the earthquake this weekend. Pray for safety and provision for the hundreds of thousands left homeless.

Haiti: The emotional wounds of the Haitian people that could last longer than the physical injuries and the thousands of children left orphaned and homeless. Provision of shelter, clothing, food, safe water, and sanitation.

Safety of soldiers fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Sugar River United Methodist Church SERMON OUTLINE for Sunday, March 7, 2010

Our Unfolding Story: Mary and Martha

Text: Luke 10:38-42

Pastor Gary Holmes

1. Jesus set out for Jerusalem (Luke 9:51-55)

Travel and Hospitality

2. Lessons from Mary and Martha's Story

Jesus is _____

Mary and Martha's expression of _____.

The Balance of bread.

Meals are important (Luke 10:5-8)

Time in God's Word is important (Luke 4:4)

Is this story a battle between service and devotion?

Mary takes on the role of a disciple...against cultural norms.

Mary, Martha and the Good Samaritan
Samaritan...does the Word
Mary...listens to the Word

How do we love God and others...follow Mary and the Samaritan's example...two unlikely heroes.

3. What is our story?

Do we listen at the feet of Jesus?

What do we do with what we hear?

GROWTH GUIDE – Sugar River UMC

For the week of March 7, 2010

Winter Session - Week 9 of 10

Next week, March 14, is the last week for our Winter Growth Group session. We invite the Growth Groups to make plans for the Spring Session starting the week of April 11th and will run for 8 weeks ending the last week in May.

Mary and Martha's Story

Luke 10:38-42

When do we serve and when do we sit? Balance the work and the quiet devotion of our lives.

Openers

4. Being a good host helps the guest to feel comfortable. What helps to make you feel comfortable when visiting others? What helps a host feel appreciated by the guest? Name a person you like to visit and why you like being with him/her.
5. Talk about a way that you take time out of your life for devotion. How often do you do this?
6. Talk about your relationship with your sibling(s) and/or a best friend. What are/were common causes of disagreement between you.

Application of the Word

7. Are you more like Martha or Mary? Share why you feel that way?
8. Who do you think loved Jesus more, Mary or Martha? Does Jesus call us to be more like Martha or Mary?

9. Martha went to Jesus when she wanted Mary to help her. Why do you think she approached Jesus instead of Mary? Why do you think Mary did not go to Martha to encourage her to put aside her work to hear Jesus speak? Are there parallel circumstances in your life where you get caught up in the moment and forget to listen to the voice of God?
10. Share a time that you did a good job spending enough time in devotion. How did this affect your life? When your spiritual life is dull, how do you respond to/feel about life's small problems? How about the big ones?
11. Genuine Christian friendship involves offering others hospitality of all types. What kind of hospitality is God speaking to you about practicing more?
12. Martha asked Jesus to tell Mary to help her. Have you ever asked Jesus to change someone else to benefit you? What could you have done differently? Is this ever appropriate?
13. Christians know Jesus to be loving and compassionate. Were you surprised at His response to Martha? What do you think of his response to her?