

Not so LITTLE WOMEN



Week 14: MARTHA Today's Verses:

LUKE 10:41-42
JOHN CHAPTERS 10, 11 & 12
PSALM 16:5-11
GALATIANS 3:28

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Read: LUKE 10:38-42; JOHN 11:1-6, 17-28, 38-45

Ask/Discuss:

- What did you learn about God in this passage/message?
- What did you learn about yourself/humanity in this passage/message?
- How can we better reflect Jesus together as we live in diverse community?
- How do you feel led to foster healthy, Gospel-centered community this week?

Sermon Recap: MARTHA

The Not So Little Women series focuses on stories of different women in the Bible. Today, we look at Martha, one of Jesus' disciples.

Who was Martha? – She was a disciple of Jesus. Martha was from Bethany, a 2-mile walk from Jerusalem. She was the sister of Mary (of Bethany) and Lazarus. Martha was a 'get things done' person and likely had a gift for hospitality.

What is her story? – While hosting Jesus at her home, Martha became frustrated with her sister 'sitting at the feet of Jesus' while she served Jesus. Jesus spoke truth in love to Martha - teaching her that women and men both can be His disciples, and that 'being with' Him supersedes 'doing for' Him. Much later, Martha proclaimed her belief in Jesus as Messiah, witnessed Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, and served a meal in Jesus' honor.

What do we learn from Martha?

1. **Jesus welcomes all people, both women and men, to be His disciples.** Galatians 3:28.
2. **The Church, the Body of Christ, needs people to serve - people like Martha.** Martha was not 'in trouble' for hosting Jesus at her house. Her hospitality was a generous (and needed) gift to Jesus and the disciples likely traveling with Him. Similarly, all Jesus followers are called to serve - to use our time, energy, gifts, and skills for the sake of the Body of Christ and the people around us. Where are you serving in the Body of Christ? How has God used serving in your life? If you're not serving yet, where might you start?
3. **'Being with' Jesus is more important than 'doing things for' Jesus.** Martha allowed busyness and social expectations to take her away from spending relational time with Jesus. Our instant-access, performance-driven, overscheduled lives foster the same in many of us. Serving others in Jesus' name is valuable. More important is sharing our lives with Jesus, listening to Him, knowing Him more.
4. **Jesus, the Messiah, loves us! Let's trust that He is working in His perfect time.** Martha knew Jesus loved her. Over time she matured in her faith. She trusted He was the Messiah - even though Jesus let Lazarus die before He came to Bethany. Like Martha, let's wait on Jesus to come. Let's run to Him, share our lives with Him, ask Him about our hurts and challenges, and have faith he will show His glory through our circumstances in His time.