

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Come On In!"

By Rev. Larry Danforth, United Methodist Church-Almena/Clayton/Norcatour

Luke 10:38 - 42
I love this story. It is a story of opposites. On the one hand, you have Martha who is the lady of the house and more than likely the older one. Then, you have her little sister, Mary. I suspect she is the dreamer, the idealist.

And now look at what happens here. Mary sits at the Lord's feet and listens to what he is saying. Meanwhile, Martha is busying herself with all these other things that are going on. In the scriptures, it says Martha was distracted by her many tasks. I wonder how often I have done that very thing. I just busy myself with other tasks as if busying is merely random unproductive motion. I would even go a step further and say that I am busy with stuff in my mind, when in fact I have a lot more time than I thought. And the thing is it really

turns out to be just stuff that I have crowding my life. It means nothing.

But now Mary actually does something. She sits and listens to Jesus. She stops her busy-ness, she ceases all other activ-

ity for something much more important. She listens to the teachings of Jesus. Her activity is focused and has purpose. What is more is if she lives by these teachings then her listening

was actually productive. That is the difference between Mary and Martha. Martha is busying herself with stuff that doesn't matter and therefore is unproductive. But Mary is focused on the only thing that does matter.

It makes me wonder about the first part of this scripture where it says that Martha welcomed him into her home. Did Martha truly welcome Jesus into her home? Did Jesus feel truly welcomed in Martha's home by Martha? Or did Mary, make Jesus feel truly welcomed? Now, what about us? Do we truly make Jesus feel welcome in our midst? When we gather together as disciples do we make Jesus feel welcome?

Our actions and attitudes and everything around us should reflect that holiness in faith. Amen.



Seasons

As the end of summer approaches, we might feel an occasional cool breeze some evenings or notice a lone leaf letting go as it drifts to the still warm ground. Change is on the way. Soon the trees will be ablaze with glory. The landscape will transform from solid green to bursts of red, orange, and gold.

Our lives have seasons, too. From youth to old age, our change in seasons can be both exhilarating and formidable... an adventure into the unknown. We don't have to experience it alone. When we trust God in all circumstances, He will help us through every transition.

You can learn more about God's unfailing companionship as you worship Him this week. Let Him help you prepare for the changing seasons of your life.

Sunday 2 Timothy 1.1-18	Monday 2 Timothy 2.1-13	Tuesday 2 Timothy 2.14-26	Wednesday 2 Timothy 3.1-17	Thursday 2 Timothy 4.1-22	Friday Titus 1.1-16	Saturday Titus 2.1-15
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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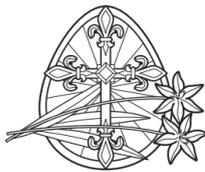
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