

**SHARING THE FAITH: WEEKLY EMAIL DEVOTION
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 2010**

Readings for July 18, 2010

**Disciples: Ordinary People Moved by God's Extraordinary Love
Sermon Series WEEK 2: Study God's Word**

LUKE 10:38-42

³⁸Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Faith Questions:

1. This week is WEEK 2 of our summer sermon series, "Disciples: Ordinary People Moved by God's Extraordinary Love." Look at the relationship between the sisters Mary and Martha in this text. How were each of them moved differently to act in response to God's love? How much time do you spend each week worrying about details the way Martha did? How much time do you spend immersed in God's teaching as Mary was?
2. What lessons can this text teach us about hospitality?
3. Listening is an important part of hospitality—listening to God, and listening to neighbor. What could you do that would foster more Mary-like listening in your life? When do you make time to listen to your family? Your friends and neighbors? When do you make time to listen to Jesus?
4. What is Jesus' message to us in this text concerning the importance of studying God's Word? Why do you think "study" is the theme of this text? How might Jesus' message move you into a different kind of action when it comes to studying God's word?
5. How could you creatively study God's word in the weeks and months ahead?

Let us pray:

Teacher, give us the will and the desire to grow as your disciples through the study of your teachings. Give us hearts for Bible Study and discussion. Teach us to ask questions and to seek to know you more deeply.

For whom else, and for what else, shall we pray? (Insert your own prayer here)
Amen.

Devotion prepared by staff at Trinity Lutheran Church, Lansdale, Pennsylvania, under the direction of Rebecca Kolowé, Diaconal Minister.
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