

July 17, 2022

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 10:38-42

This short reading is jam packed with many lessons. Mostly this is a commentary about how we are made. That we have at least two natures. They are our physical nature and our spiritual nature.

Martha seems to represent that physical nature that we have. In this passage she is worried about getting things done and looking after her guests that have arrived. Martha is very concerned about hospitality and looking after people. This was a big cultural concern and responsibility. Martha is physically overwhelmed by her responsibilities and the lack of help from her sister Mary.

The great lesson to take away from Martha is that sometimes we cannot do it all. We all have limits. Did you notice what she did? This is very important. Martha went to Jesus for help. At least she asked and talked to Him about her problem. Mind you the answer she received did not seem to help her situation. This reminds us to talk to

God when problems come up and we feel overwhelmed. However, we should be prepared because the answer we get may not be the one we were expecting. Just like what happened to Martha.

Mary on the other hand does not seem too worried about Martha's problem. Mary is parked at the feet of Jesus and is listening to what He has to say. There are times when we do have to slow down from our busy lives and just listen to what God is saying to us. We just come out of a two year slow down. Do you think many were listening? God was speaking loud enough.

Jesus tells us that Mary's scenario is the best and it will not be taken away from her. Both scenarios, Mary's and Martha's, have their place. They need to be put in a healthy context. Did you notice that Jesus is put in the middle of the situation as a mediator? He seems to be the tipping point or the balance point. We should go to Jesus also in order to help us keep a healthy balance between our physical and spiritual natures. Like Martha, we should talk to God and like Mary, we should listen. Most importantly, we should always be talking and listening to God.

We are spirits or souls having an earthly experience in the bodies we have been given. Our physical nature should keep us grounded or anchored in reality. So that our spiritual nature has a strong foundation to work from. Our spiritual nature connects us to the Divine. Without it we could easily lose our ability to connect with our Creator. When

we have an imbalance in one of our natures we develop greater problems overall. Keeping a healthy balance is the key. This is what Jesus is suggesting to Martha this morning. She should try some of what Mary is doing. The big worries of hospitality are not that big and will get done in due time. Everything in context. Don't sweat the petty stuff, and don't pet the sweaty stuff.

The lessons from this morning's rant are: God made us with two natures. One physical and the other spiritual. Both are very important and depend on the other. Try to keep a healthy balance of the two.

Always talk to God in your life. Especially when you are overwhelmed. Sometimes the answers you get may not be what you want, but they will be what you need. Always listen to what He has to say.

If its sweaty, don't pet it!

God bless and have a Spirit filled week, Pastor D