

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Road Map
Pastor Roger W. Huffman

Luke 10:38-42
July 26, 2015

Jesus, help me give priority to what is needed above all else.

What was Martha saying?

- ♦ *It's not **fair** that Mary is just sitting there making me do all the work. Jesus, teach her what's **obvious** and **fair**.*
- ♦ *It's **obvious** Jesus and his crew **need** to be fed and treated well. Why am I the only one that sees this - Mary?*

Jesus never criticizes Martha for her hosting out of love in faith. Jesus does help Martha adjust her view/conviction of what is **needed or necessary**.

Consider what you say, think, what seems obviously needed to you.

- ♦ *I can't live without... my morning coffee - Coke - Dew...*
- ♦ *I can't imagine life without... my spouse, kids, parents, pet, career*
- ♦ What looks and sounds like your *one thing needed* to others?

Jesus, help me give priority to what is needed above all else.

- ❖ Insights from $\chi\rho\epsilon\iota\alpha$ – *needed*
 - ♦ *Need = what is lacking*
 - ♦ *One thing needed = the only thing that can provide what is lacking*
- ❖ What is the *one thing needed*? Jesus or his word?
 - ♦ **Both!** Jesus is the Word made flesh. He's what the word is about.
 - ♦ Those who see Jesus without his word, have a Jesus of their own imagination - a Jesus of selective memory - not the Lord!
 - ♦ Jesus reveals himself in his teachings - his nature, character, promises
- ❖ The real (and obvious) essential need of every human being.
 - ♦ Born separated from God by your sin mindset.
 - Hostile to God, his will and ways. Thinks: "*God is the problem.*"
 - Separated from our Creator is separated from the Source of Life, life itself. Born dead and headed to eternal separation/death.
 - Blinded thinking sin is life, when it's a state of death, where sin and death are our masters - under Satan's lordship.
 - ♦ **Our essential need:** rescue from sin's grip, blindness, death

- ❖ Jesus alone is the only one who can meet this need!
 - ♦ He alone was born without sin!
 - ♦ He alone defeated every temptation.
 - ♦ He alone defeated death - rising from the dead.
 - ♦ He died, because he took our guilt and **fully** paid for it **for us**.
 - ♦ He is *the way, the truth, the life* - the only Way to life.
 - ♦ He's unique: fully human - fully divine - God appointed Substitute - *the One and Only Son God gave in love for the whole world.*
- ❖ Jesus meets our needs:
 - ♦ Through forgiveness giving new birth - reconnecting us to our Father
 - ♦ His words alone are life - giving life, making us alive, sustaining life
 - *man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.* Jesus is the Bread of Life, w/o - starve!
 - ♦ He opens eyes, creates a mindset based on reality/truth
 - ♦ Fills with love, joy, peace - wholeness of full fellowship with God
 - Contrast: *worried and upset by many things (Martha & us)*
 - Check what seems essential, priorities, obvious - often the problem
 - ♦ Replace it with Jesus, his words - truth and promises
- ❖ Grow in this conviction and act on it
 - ♦ Conviction: *As long as I have Jesus (words) I have more than enough.*
 - ♦ Grow in conviction, tasting his word & living it (not just know about)
 - Daily Bible Study: listen carefully, see self in it, adjust, walk in it
 - ♦ There is nothing like experiencing how he and his word fully meet our needs to deepen our conviction that he indeed is the *One thing needed*.
 - ♦ Then you'll see the same needs in others and offer *One thing needed*
 - When you see a need where you can help - you offer help.
 - Offer Jesus/his word, not as your opinion/culture, but as fact - what everyone really needs.

Jesus, help me give priority to what is needed above all else.