

## Choose the good part

The story of Mary and Martha is again a reminder to us. (Luke 10) “Mary”, Jesus said, had *“chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.”* Mary knew when to stop working and sit at Jesus’ feet to listen to Him. Martha, on the other hand, needed to be exhorted. Jesus said to her, *“Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only a few things are necessary, really only one....”*

I think Jesus meant that God's will could be described as "a few things necessary". We all tend to become involved in too many things, sometimes out of need or pressure rather than the Lord's direction. When I become involved in more than a “few things”, I tend to become bothered and worried like Martha. I can even begin to doubt His love for me like she did. "Don't you care...?", she said to Jesus! She assumed that if He really loved her, He'd get Mary to help her in the kitchen. When I get involved in things that are not born of His Spirit, it seems He doesn't help me out enough in all of my efforts to “do good deeds for Him”!

Mary wasn't lazy; she just knew when it was time to pay attention to Jesus — instead being distracted by all the urgent needs, and having no energy left to fellowship with Him. Mary showed her loyalty to Jesus Himself by putting everything else out of her mind when He came to visit her home. She knew He wanted her attention first, not her service.

‘Lord help us all to take the time to be with You. Help us to see the “few things that are necessary”, those things to which You have really called us.’

‘Lord, help us all to see the "really only one thing necessary" -- to sit at Your feet, hear Your Word, and live according to that Word.’

“Lord, show us all how to "choose the good part, which shall not be taken away from us”.

John Matthews