

**Dinner with Jesus – 6**  
*The Table of Discipleship*  
(Luke 10:38–42)

**Vision:** *Strain to Love: Sharing the Table of Christ*  
**Mission:** *Every Chair Filled, Every Heart Engaged*

**Introduction:** As strange as it may sound, it is still true; sitting with Jesus matters more than serving Him.

Our dinner with Jesus today “The table of Discipleship” teaches us that true discipleship prioritizes *being* with Jesus over *doing* for Jesus.

As the old saying goes, “*Don’t get so involved in the work of the Lord that you forget the Lord of the work.*”

**I. The peril of distraction (vv. 38–40)**

**A. Martha welcomed Jesus but became “distracted with much serving” (v. 40).**

1. Her commendable hospitality became a burden and source of resentment.
2. “You are anxious and troubled about many things” (v. 41) – busyness replaced blessing.

**Psalm 127:1** – “*Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it.*”

**John 15:5** – “*Apart from Me you can do nothing.*”

**(John Ortberg)** “If the devil can’t make you bad, he’ll make you busy.”

**B. Even good work can distract if it replaces communion with Christ.**

**II. The priority of devotion (vv. 41–42)**

**A. Jesus responds gently:** “*Martha, Martha...*” – not with condemnation, but correction.

1. “**One thing is necessary.** Mary has chosen the good portion” (vv. 41–42).

**Jesus’ words challenge our modern mindset.** We often measure our worth by productivity – how much we get done, how useful we are.

**Sitting quietly to pray or read Scripture can feel “unproductive.”** Yet Jesus says it is *the most needful thing!*

2. **Mary sat at Jesus’ feet**—a disciple’s posture, prioritizing relationship over activity.

**Psalm 27:4** – “*One thing I ask... to dwell in the house of the Lord.*”

**Deut. 8:3 / Matt. 4:4** – “*Man shall not live by bread alone...*”

**John 15:7–8** – “*Abide in Me... bear much fruit.*”

**Mark 10:45** – “*The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve.*”

**B. Devotion is the fuel for fruitful ministry.**

***Martha and Mary give us a practical mirror.*** *Who are we most like right now, and what needs to adjust?*

**III. The practice of discipleship: presence over productivity**

**A. What does all this look like in our lives and church mission?**

1. **Build unhurried time with Jesus** into your daily rhythm.
2. **Let worship precede work** – serve after sitting.
3. **Invite Jesus into your workday** with prayer pauses.
4. **Value people over projects** – in discipleship, people are our priority.

**Hebrews 12:1** – “*Lay aside every weight...*”

**Matthew 11:28** – “*Come to Me... and I will give you rest.*”

**B. Discipleship is not about more energy, but more intimacy.**

**Conclusion:** Don’t let the urgent crowd out the important.

We must become a people who sit with Jesus before we serve for Him.

As Jesus said, “*Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.*”

Time in Jesus’ presence is not a luxury; it is a necessity if we are to accomplish our vision and mission. We must choose it, guard it—and be changed by it.