



Sunday, January 17, 2021
Pastor Don Denyes

Intro to Luke 10:38-42

It's always a timely word to be challenged to re-evaluate our priorities around God and His purposes. One problem many of us have is that we tend to think of God as "number one" on our list of priorities, but when we begin to examine our lives—our time, our spending, our speech—we find that He has not been first among our priorities. So, we need constant reminders to point us back to the life-giving relationship we have with Jesus Christ.

The trouble for many of us is that we get distracted by many things. We become distracted by work, school, family life. These are all good and necessary things, but when they gain first-place in our hearts, then our loves are disordered and need to be reordered properly. Even beyond these, ministry can become a distraction, where the many tasks involved in serving the Lord can shift our focus away from knowing and loving Him to *merely* serving Him.

So, as we are still in this first month of the year, may we commit ourselves to sitting at Jesus's feet once again this year. Even if we have spent a lifetime reading the Bible, there is always more for Him to teach us. If anything, we are different this year than in the past and encountering God's word afresh might reveal some new applications to your present situation that you hadn't considered before. May God give us grace to keep Him as our true number one priority!

Context

The story of Mary and Martha is a familiar one. However, as Pastor Don noted, the context really helps us understand the main idea. Just like in Matthew 22, where Jesus responds to the questions about the greatest commandment, Jesus does the same here, but instead of responding with a set of propositions, Luke tells the story of the time Jesus illustrated this point perfectly!

Read and Reflect *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Luke 10:38-42

“Priorities”

Matthew 22

What is the greatest commandment?

- 1- Love God with all your heart

- 2- Love your neighbor as yourself

Luke 10

How do I inherit eternal life?

Listen to Martha

- Upset with Mary

- Upset with Jesus

Listen to Jesus

- Kindly rebukes Martha

- Clearly commends Mary

For me to live is Christ... Philippians 1:21

Make Christ first in your life...top priority!

Discuss

- 1) Pastor Don mentioned we can tell what our priorities are by how we spend our time. What are some other ways we can know what we really prioritize?
- 2) What are some of the biggest distractions you face in your walk with the Lord?
- 3) What, if anything, needs to change about how you spend your time or how you encounter distractions in your life?
- 4) Pastor Don drew the parallel between loving God and spending time in His word (reading, listening, etc.). What does this discipline look like in your life?
- 5) What are some ways we can help keep each other accountable in this area?