



## SDG Discussion Guide

Luke 10:38-42

September 29, 2019

For Starters:

What is on the top of your "to-do" list when preparing for company?

What is your favorite meal to prepare for company or to enjoy with company?

Who do you take after in personality more - your father or mother? How?

Guideline: The following is meant to provide an approach for further interaction with the respective sermon text and *surrounding passage*. Feel free to forward to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find this write up in print on that Sunday.

First, as you can, read aloud and slowly the selected passage in your group. If you have time, read it aloud a second time - from a different Bible translation.

Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together and prayed, what points and questions arise from your group? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these points and questions. Explore and see how God may give guidance in the discussion. The following are further questions you may use to guide your interaction with the text.

1. How do these two sisters differ? Is Mary's choice better? What about Jesus' call to servanthood? What is Jesus' point?
2. What was Jesus saying to Martha? She should be more like Mary? Her priorities were mixed up? "Sitting at Jesus' feet" is more important than anything else? Other?
3. If you had been Martha, how do you feel you would have responded to Jesus? Gone away and felt hurt? Thought to yourself: "He doesn't have to live with my sister"? Become mad? Tried to explain why you needed help? Other?
4. Comparing your personality to the two people in this story, which of them are you more like? Martha - perhaps responsible and uptight? Mary - perhaps carefree and laid-back? Elaborate.
5. In what area of your life do you lack or need a greater balance? Spiritual? Family? Vocational? Leisure? Lifestyle? Other? Elaborate.
6. How do you seek to serve others while also keeping God-given priorities?
7. What one thing may be needed for some stress to be removed from your life? A "Martha" to help you get your work done? To be more reflective like Mary? To better understand our Lord and his teachings about what's truly important? To grow closer to God in relationship? Other?
8. Jesus said Martha was "worried and upset about many things." What are you worried or upset about right now? How can this group help you in prayer this week?

Come Holy Spirit. Help us to pray. Please show us the Martha or Mary or both within ourselves. Speak to us about what's truly important and let us hear clearly from you. Encourage us to take action where we need to in our lives. And challenge and discomfort us where we need. Meet our spiritual condition once again with your peace that surpasses our understanding. Bolster us this week to be a blessing to others as you continue to bless us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.