

## Luke 9-11: The Jesus Priority and Prayer

### The Cost of Following Jesus = Priority

Luke 9:57-62

*<sup>57</sup>As they were walking along, someone said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go." <sup>58</sup>But Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head." <sup>59</sup>He said to another person, "Come, follow me." The man agreed, but he said, "Lord, first let me return home and bury my father." <sup>60</sup>But Jesus told him, "Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead! Your duty is to go and preach about the Kingdom of God." <sup>61</sup>Another said, "Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family." <sup>62</sup>But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God."*

- first guy is thinking that following Jesus will bring him some pathway to a comfortable life
- second guy is trying to set his pre-conditions to following Jesus

### The Jesus Priority and Our Busyness Problem

*"Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house.<sup>39</sup> And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." <sup>41</sup>But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things,<sup>42</sup> but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."*

In the cultural setting Martha is doing what is right, Mary is doing something very wrong. Jesus is breaking cultural mores by recognizing Mary, a woman, as His disciple equal with men.

Martha is distracted from Jesus, trying to do things for Jesus when the situation is a perfect opportunity to simply enjoy being in the company of Jesus and learn from Him.

Why are we doing the things we are doing?

## How can we cultivate a Jesus Priority and Prayer

### We Choose to Spend Time with Jesus and Hear His Words

*"Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching."*

### We Slow Down Enough to Learn His Way For Us

*"Martha, Martha"*

What if the thing we are giving our energy to doing is the very thing that is more important to us than Jesus.

### We Practice Praying Reality with God

***11** Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." <sup>2</sup>And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name."*

We pray with the staggering reality: *Our Father* = Abba