

UNIT 10, SESSION 4

MARY AND MARTHA

LUKE 10

KEY POINTS

We must put Jesus first. • Jesus wants us to listen to Him. • Jesus is our focus.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who should we put first in our life? **Jesus!**

MEMORY VERSE

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. **Matthew 5:14**



LEADER BIBLE STUDY

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." – Luke 10:38-42, NIV

Imagine for a moment that Jesus was coming to your home today. What would you clean? What food would you prepare? What would you worry about? Would the floors be spotless? Would the decorations be just right? Would the meal be impressive?

This week's lesson is about two sisters, Mary and Martha. When Jesus came to visit, Martha immediately began preparing and serving. She wanted everything to be just right. She wasn't doing anything wrong; she was serving! But Mary made a different choice. She sat at Jesus' feet and listened. Martha was busy doing good things. Mary chose better.

As preschool leaders, we understand Martha. We think about classroom setup, check-in systems, snacks and supplies, parent communication, volunteer schedules...the list never ends!

None of these are bad. In fact, they're important! But like Martha, we can become so busy doing things *for* Jesus that we forget to simply be *with* Jesus. Ministry activity can never replace intimacy with Him. Every day we choose:

- Bible or scrolling?
- Worship or worry?
- Time with Jesus or just preparation for teaching about Him?

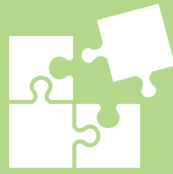
Martha wasn't rebuked for serving, she was gently corrected for being distracted. Psalm 46 reminds us to "be still and know that I am God," because stillness isn't laziness; it's surrender. Mary chose not to let her sister pull her away from Jesus. She listened to His voice above all others. As leaders, we must do the same. We cannot physically sit at His feet like Mary did but we *can* open His Word, pray, worship, and quiet our hearts.

This week, ask yourself:

- Am I serving Jesus more than I'm sitting with Him?
- What distractions are pulling me away?
- Am I modeling stillness for the children I teach?

Our preschoolers need leaders who spend time with Jesus. I am right there with you, trying day by day to do just that. I hope you are too!

WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “This Little Light of Mine”:

You are the light of the world.
A city on a hill
cannot be hidden.
Matthew 5:14

Repeat 2x

THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

Toddlers & Twos: Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

Threes & Fours: Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

CRAFT



Help children with a craft connected to the lesson.

CRAFT: PAPER WATCH

Give each child a paper watch template and crayons/markers. Let them decorate their watch for a few minutes, then help them cut it out with scissors. Tape each child's watch around their wrist, or let them take it home as-is.

As you work, help children understand that we're making a watch to remind us to slow down and spend time with Jesus. Then, tell or retell today's Bible lesson about Mary and Martha.





BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

One day, Jesus visited his friends. They were sisters named Martha and Mary. They were very happy to see him.

Martha rushed into the kitchen to prepare some food, but Mary sat down by Jesus' feet to listen to Him teach. Mary knew it was important listen to Jesus.

Martha knew Jesus was a very special guest. She wanted everything to be perfect. She rushed here and there. She cooked and cleaned. She was upset her sister did not help. Finally, she was fed up.

Martha asked Jesus to tell Mary off and to ask her to help. But Jesus said, "Martha you choose to do something good, but Mary has chosen what's best."

THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

One day, Jesus stopped in a village called Bethany. While there, Jesus went to visit his friends. They were two sisters named Martha and Mary. They were very happy to see him.

Martha rushed into the kitchen to prepare some food. Mary sat down by Jesus' feet to listen to Him speak. Mary treasured her time with Jesus and knew how important it was to listen to Him.

Martha knew Jesus was a very special guest. She wanted everything to be perfect. She rushed here and there. She cooked and cleaned. She was upset her sister did not help.

Finally, she was fed up. Martha asked Jesus to tell Mary off and ask her to help. But Jesus said, "Martha you choose to do something good, but Mary has chosen what's best."

KEY POINTS: We must put Jesus first. • Jesus wants us to listen to Him. • Jesus is our focus.

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. Who chose what was better, Mary or Martha?
4. Who should we put first in our life? **Jesus!**

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!