

Sermon Discussion Questions: Distraction of Tech and Attention to Jesus
Faith and Technology Series

- **Can you remember a time or event where you thought, “It seems that our smartphones have taken over for our interactions with each other”? What was happening?**
 - Yancey said that social media and other tech companies have your attention as their goal. What things do they do to try to keep your attention on your smart devices?
 - What are the positives about this kind of tech?
 - What are the drawbacks?
 - Yancey said, based on the research on experts like Dr. Larry Rosen, our smart devices are making us less productive, shrinking our attention span, and increasing our low-grade anxiety. Do you see any of that in you or around you? Explain.

- **Read Luke 10:38-42**
 - How does Luke draw a contrast between Mary and Martha?
 - Why would Mary’s physical posture be a clue as to how she sees herself in respect to Jesus?
 - How do we know, based on Jesus’ words, that his statements to Martha are not a condemning of her being industrious or serving others but is about something much bigger in her life?

- **How can distraction be a big enemy in the life of faith?**
 - What did Mary do to bring herself in a place to listen and obey her Master?
 - What can this show us about finding distraction-free places in our daily lives to spend time with Jesus?
 - How have the Bible and the Spirit’s work through it been a suitable replacement for the physical presence of Jesus? How does this allow believers today to “sit at the feet” of Jesus?

- **Yancey said that *growing deeply in God demands thinking deeply about God*. What does that have to do with Yancey’s emphasis on being “wonderfully unavailable” to things, people, and tech at times?**
 - Why is this such a challenge for some?
 - How can community actually be a good exception (e.g., small group, corporate worship) to this idea of being wonderfully unavailable?
 - How are you making space to sit at the feet of Jesus? If not, would you share why?
 - How can small group help encourage each other to be faithful citizens who listen and obey their King by sitting at his feet?