

## ***Crashing Through Quitting Points! Exhausting Irritations Luke 10:38-42***

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*This past Tuesday, I was reading my OneYear Bible and the OT passage was 1 Samuel 1-2...*

*It's the story of a woman named Hannah...*

*She was unable to have children and it was eating her alive...*

*She took her pain to the Lord...*

*1 Samuel 1:10 (ESV) — She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly.*

*The fervency of her praying was so deep that the priest who was watching her thought she was drunk!*

*When Eli confronted Hannah, listen to her response...*

*1 Samuel 1:15 (ESV) — ... I am a woman troubled in spirit... I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD.*

*When Eli heard Hannah's heart he spoke a blessing over her...*

*1 Samuel 1:17–18 (ESV) — Then Eli answered, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition that you have made to him." And she said, "Let your servant find*

*favor in your eyes." Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.*

***Hannah received and became pregnant with a promise BEFORE she became pregnant with a baby!***

*If you are watching and have been longing for a baby, but have been unable to become pregnant...*

*Would you be willing to receive YOUR PROMISE today?*

**PRAY**

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- ***Quitting points are those roadblocks in life that make us want to give up***

*Quitting Points are a Universal reality*

- ***Everyone HAS them and everyone HITS them***

*What separates the Conquerors from the Quitters?*

*Over the next several weeks we are going to look at some common ROADBLOCKS that become Quitting Points...*

*We are not going to be looking at how we can avoid quitting points, but rather how we can see them for what they are and crash through them!*

- ***Quitting points will either DEFINE us or REFINE us...***

**Quitting points need not BIND us, but can REMIND us of God's faithfulness through every trial**

**Today we are going to continue by looking at another QUITTING POINT that I'm calling "Exhausting Irritations"**

**Today we are going to be focusing on a particular woman that I believe to be one of the most misunderstood and misrepresented people in the Bible...**

**We are going to be looking at the story of Martha...**

**Many of you are familiar with Martha...**

**She was the sister of two very famous siblings...**

- **Her sister Mary anointed Jesus for burial prior to Him going to the Cross...**
- **Her brother Lazarus who Jesus raised from the dead**

**Compared to these siblings Martha is always shown as the one who was too busy for Jesus, or was more concerned about serving Jesus than sitting at His feet...**

**This morning I hope to dispel many of the misconceptions regarding Martha...**

**For I hope to show her to be an amazing woman of God!**

**In fact, this evening our "After the Message" segment will be focused on showing Martha as a PROTOTYPE of the Proverbs 31 woman!**

**In fact, listen to what the Bible says about Jesus' feelings towards Martha...**

**John 11:5 (ESV) — Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.**

**Luke 10:38–42 (ESV) — 38 Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. 40 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." 41 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, 42 but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."**

## **1. Stay focused on the peace of Jesus!**

**Luke 10:40–41 (ESV) — 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." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things**

**There was SO MUCH to do!**

**Think with me ...**

- **Martha finds out that Jesus and His disciples are coming to her home to eat and probably sleep**
- **She runs to the market to buy all the necessary items to feed everyone...**
- **She then cleans her home to make it look presentable for Jesus...**

- ***She sets the table and makes sure everything in in place...***
- ***Then she begins cooking the meal***

***About this time Jesus and the disciples arrive...***

- ***She is so excited to see Him***
- ***They exchange greetings and then sit down***
- ***Someone probably asks Jesus a question and He begins teaching...***
- ***Martha wants to hear every word Jesus is teaching, but there is still SO MUCH TO DO***
- ***She gets up and motions to her sister, Mary to join her as they get everything ready***
- ***However, Mary doesn't move...***
- ***Martha tries to continue listening to Jesus while she is preparing the meal, but it's hard to concentrate***
- ***She is only catching bits and pieces of His teaching***
- ***Martha becomes frustrated and starts calling Mary to come help***
- ***"If Mary would help me we could finish and both get to hear, at least, Jesus' final teachings..."***
- ***Mary doesn't move...***
- ***Now Martha begins making louder noises to get Mary's attention, but to no avail...***
- ***Finally, Martha has had enough!***

***Luke 10:40b (ESV) — ... "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me."***

***The word "distracted" means...***

***"To be overburdened by various distractions as to be worried and anxious."***

***Luke 10:41 (ESV) — But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things"***

***The word that is translated here, "anxious", means...***

***"To have an anxious concern based upon apprehension about a possible problem."***

***The word that is translated here, "troubled", means...***

***"To be emotionally distressed and upset."***

***What had happened?***

***Martha had lost her peace!***

***Here was Jesus, the Prince of Peace, in her home and her worries and cares have stripped her of her peace...***

***→ God's Peace is the INDICATOR***

***John 14:27 (ESV) — Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.***

***→ Pic 1 – Peace-O-Meter - Peace***



→ **Pic 2 – Peace-O-Meter - Anxiety**



→ **Pic 3 – Peace-O-Meter - Upset**



→ Jesus was not rebuking Martha, but inviting Martha!

**Proverbs 16:9 (NLT) — We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps.**

**1. Stay focused on the peace of Jesus!**

**2. Seek first the presence of Jesus!**

**Luke 10:42 (ESV) — but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her .”**

The word, “necessary”, means...

**“That which is lacking and particularly needed.”**

The word, “chosen”, means...

**“To make a choice from several possible alternatives.”**

When Jesus uses the phrase, “good portion” He is helping Martha clearly understand...

- She was worried if the food would be ready...
- BUT, she was worried if there would be enough!
- Was everyone going to have a “good portion”

The phrase, “not taken away from her” is VERY IMPORTANT...

The words “taken away”, means...

**“To cause to cease, implying that someone is no longer permitted to enjoy or participate in some activity.”**

***Women in that time were not permitted to be taught by rabbis.***

***Jesus, however, opens His classroom to all who desire to be taught!!!***

***Psalm 16:11 (ESV) — You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.***

***Jesus' invitation was for Martha to come sit with Him!***

***Matthew 6:31–33 (ESV) — Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.***

***→ God's Presence is the INSULATOR***

***Matthew 11:28 (NLT) — Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.***

***Did Martha heed Jesus response?***

***YES SHE DID!***

***STORY: The death of Lazarus...***

***Martha hears that Jesus has arrived and goes to him...***

***Listen to her faith in Him...***

***John 11:21–22 (ESV) — Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."***

***Jesus responds...***

***John 11:25–26 (ESV) — Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"***

***Listen to Martha's amazing proclamation...***

***John 11:27 (ESV) — She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."***

***1. Stay focused on the peace of Jesus!***

***2. Seek first the presence of Jesus!***

***3. Serve faithfully in the power of Jesus!***

***John 12:1–2 (ESV) — Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table.***

→ ***God's Power is the INITIATOR***

***1 Corinthians 4:20 (ESV) — For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power.***

***1 Peter 4:9–11 (ESV) — Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ... whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.***

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Exhausting Irritations  
Luke 10:38-42***

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➤ ***God's Peace is the \_\_\_\_\_***

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