

Your Need Is Your Lead

May 27, 2018

And what leads you, affects your...

- perspective
- your influence
- and your ability to respond to the challenges and opportunities of life
 - *Prov. 23:7 – ‘As a man thinks in his heart so is he’*

Luke 10:38-42 (HCSB):

³⁸ *While they were traveling, He entered a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home”.*

³⁹ *She had a sister named Mary, who also sat at the Lord’s feet and was listening to what He said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, and she came up and asked, “Lord, don’t You care that my sister has left me to serve alone? So tell her to give me a hand.”*

⁴¹ *The Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but one thing is necessary. Mary has made the right choice, and it will not be taken away from her.”*

How we lead our lives is driven by what we feel is...

- *the **greatest need** at the moment*
- *what our **priorities** are*
- *what we **feel is most** important...*

Jesus says,

- ⁴¹ *“Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but one thing is necessary. Mary has made the right choice,^[1] and it will not be taken away from her.”*

Jesus statement He makes speaks to us today on how our sense of need affects

- *how we lead ourselves*
- *how we lead those around us*
- *and how we lead our spiritual lives*

1. YOUR NEED DETERMINES HOW YOU LEAD YOURSELF:

Luke 10:40 says, *‘Martha was distracted by her many tasks’*

And Jesus didn’t have a problem with the tasks, but with her priority...

But the problem is when our serving of Jesus comes before sitting before Jesus to hear His Word and act on it,

- **so, we lead our lives doing many things – but not bearing much fruit** that glorifies God as Jesus mentioned in John 15
 - not making a difference that matters for eternity...

God wants your affection before your action

1 Sam. 15:22

God wants your obedience over your sacrifice

Rev. 2:2-4 (NLT)

“I know all the things you do. I have seen your hard work and your patient endurance...But I have this complaint against you. You don’t love me or each other as you did at first!...Turn back to me and do the works you did at first”

Often, we put work before worship, labor before love, duty before devotional time, and our serving before sitting...

Sometimes we think we need to do more, try harder...

- when we often **need to do less** and **trust God more!**
- **Faith is what please God** and your **obedience attracts** God's blessing!

Jesus said, 'one thing is needed' – not two, or three, or a list of add-ons

- One thing – *first things first, the main thing, this is what is most important*
- Matt. 6:33 – seek first...

Sitting before God and hearing His Word, is what will separate what we do from good works on earth to eternal fruit in Heaven

And we need to ask ourselves if the need of sitting at the feet of Jesus is not what is driving out lives, then what is leading us?

Are we acting out of a need to conform to culture and our surroundings like Martha was...

Sometimes we are led by a need to win the approval of others

Sometimes we are so driven by a need to achieve, be the best, to hit the next target, and we are never satisfied

Being a good steward, goals and improvements, and taking care of business is important

- but **not at the expense** of knowing God more and becoming more like Jesus

So what good indicators that your priorities are off and your being led by the wrong need?

Jesus' response to Martha's distraction.

He said in Luke 10:41

'you are worried and upset about many things'

- Do you find yourself **stressed out**?
- **Anxious** or living in **fear**?
- Getting **more irritable** or not **quite yourself**
- Are you **easily angered** and **upset**?

It could be that you need to shift your focus & perspective...

by **shifting your source of need** to **sitting** at Jesus' feet and hearing His word.

Jesus said, if you love me, you will keep my commandments

Paul the apostle explains the results of this in Rom. 14:17 (NLT)

For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

2. YOUR NEED DETERMINES HOW YOU LEAD OTHERS

Jesus said, 'love your neighbor as you love yourself'

- Which means, **how you love yourself** determines how you love others
- And **how you lead yourself** determines how you lead others...

Luke states in 10:40,

But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, and she came up and asked, "Lord, don't You care that my sister has left me to serve alone? So tell her to give me a hand."

3. YOUR NEED DETERMINES HOW YOU LEAD YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE

When we mis-prioritize, we not only affect our self-leadership, or how we lead others...*but we affect our response to God Himself!*

And begin to get the **wrong picture of God in our lives**

But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, and she came up and asked, "Lord, don't You care that my sister has left me to serve alone? So tell her to give me a hand

Martha's distraction, led to her dis-connection with Jesus.

- *And her dis-connection got her caught up*
- *causing her to question God's care!*