Luke 10: Priorities

Luke 10:38-42

- ✓ We give science a lot of credit in our culture, too much credit, "trust the science." I'm fine with that as long as there is real science behind it.
- ✓ Relying on Godless people to tell us the truth is not very smart.
- ✓ Jesus not only tells the truth but is the truth!
- ✓ We need to be listening to Him and severely limited our exposure to this godless world, its system, and its so-called science.
- ✓ Hearing Him has to be our priority.

1. "Priority" is a very much misunderstood/mishandled word.

- ✓ When we say priority we usually mean something that is important or most necessary which usually is a top ten list of what matters most.
- ✓ While having a list of what matters is important, it is a misnomer, in some respects, to call them "priorities."
- ✓ If we correctly understand the word "priority," we will know that it can't be plural, there can only be one priority.
- ✓ Priority comes from the root word "prior" which means before, ahead of or preceding.
- ✓ We can't have ten priorities because "which one comes first?"
- ✓ What should be the priority of for my life as a Christian?
- ✓ There are many important things like sharing our faith, serving the Lord, serving our world, but what is first?
- ✓ **Psalms 27:4; Philippians 3:13**, these are very busy men with many responsibilities and who were key influencers of their day, yet they reduced their lives down to one single priority.
- ✓ This story and Jesus' words agree with that single priority: Verse 42
- ✓ The good news is that it makes life really simple.
- ✓ The good news is that there is only one thing that is priority, but the bad news is that if you miss it, you miss all that follows.
- ✓ Whatever is prior, priority, comes first and defines, informs, and motivates everything that comes after it.

2. Mary chose it and Martha missed it.

- ✓ Jesus' teachings are unequaled and monumental and the only place to be, of all the places to be and things to do, is to first be at His feet.
- ✓ There are a lot of things out there that are classed as truth, but even that which is verifiable in no way compares to divine truth.
- ✓ Divine truth, hearing from God as He communicates to us through His Word, is the priority of the Christian it comes before everything.
- ✓ We have to know what He says first before we can do what He says, Luke 6:47; Luke 6:46; Luke 8:20; Luke 11:28.

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- ✓ Even a committed Christian can get distracted from the priority, Martha did, you can understand her dilemma.
- ✓ How often does the Son of God and His apostles come over for dinner?
- ✓ Hospitality and kindness to strangers is an excellent virtue; on the list of important things, those rank very high in the Scriptures: Romans 12:13; 1 Timothy 5:10.
- ✓ But how often do you get to sit as the feet of the Son of God? We eat every day!
- ✓ The priority was missed which meant she was going to miss the mark on all that followed.
- ✓ Watch what those consequences do to Martha:
 - First of all, she just barges in and interrupts His perfectly timed, perfectly expressed, perfectly applied words and teachings.
 - They could eat anytime, they ate yesterday, and they can eat tomorrow, but the Son of God is dispensing divine truth in your living room!
 - Second, she interrupts then she indicts the Savior, "Do you not care?" Does He not care?
 The One who left it all to rescue us, upon whom we are to cast all our cares because He cares for us??
 - Third, she's commanding the Son of God, all because she didn't get the right thing in the right place, the priority was broken and so it mixed up all the rest up.
- ✓ Before we condemn Martha, what is it that keeps us from coming to hear the Word of God? What priority is above the gathering of God's people where God speaks to us uniquely, being unique in our presence as He promised where two or more or gathered?
- ✓ Is this just hard to work into greater priorities for you?
- ✓ What wrong priority have you placed ahead of what God is doing in your community on Sunday or whenever there is someone teaching the very words of God?
- ✓ Being preoccupied with those things will only frustrate you, irritate you, give place for small things to become big things in your life.
- ✓ The most important thing in the universe is for us to know Him, to know Him we must know His mind, to know His mind we have to hear His Words.
- ✓ Deuteronomy 8:3; that's our life, that's our prior thing, nothing more important, nothing compares to it.