



One Thing Needful  
*Luke 10: 38-42*

## *LESSON SUPPLY LIST*

- Bible w/ Marked Scripture
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Copy of Coloring Sheet
- Copies of lesson overview for children to take home

## One Thing Needful

Luke 10:38-42



### Luke 10:38-42

<sup>38</sup>Now while they were on their way, it occurred that Jesus entered a certain village, and a woman named Martha received and welcomed Him into her house.

<sup>39</sup>And she had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at the Lord's feet and was listening to His teaching.

<sup>40</sup>But Martha [overly occupied and too busy] was distracted with much serving; and she came up to Him and said, Lord, is it nothing to You that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me [to lend a hand and do her part along with me]!

<sup>41</sup>But the Lord replied to her by saying, Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things:

<sup>42</sup>There is need of only one or but <sup>[1]</sup>a few things. Mary has chosen the good portion <sup>[1]</sup>that which is to her advantage], which shall not be taken away from her.

### Objective of Lesson:

Only Christ is needfull!

### Lesson Instructions:

1. When the Lord Jesus and His disciples came to a city called Bethany, there was a family there that worshiped and loved the Lord Jesus. In this family were two sisters, Martha and Mary, and their brother Lazarus. They opened their home to the Lord and his servants, and they received them with warmth. They cheerfully took care of all their guests' needs. Apparently, our Lord frequently visited in the home of this beloved family. This particular visit is recorded by Luke, because there are lessons to be learned from this story involving Martha, Mary, and the Lord Jesus, in which the Holy Spirit intends never to be forgotten.
2. The first sister was Martha, who was a hard working, quick to act, strong woman. She felt things strongly and spoke her mind openly. She was a woman truly devoted to Christ.
3. The second sister was Mary. Mary was a quiet, thoughtful woman, more easy-going than Martha, but still firm in her convictions. She felt things deeply, but said far less than she felt. She was also a woman genuinely devoted to Christ!
4. Martha, when Jesus came to her house, was delighted to see him and immediately began to make preparations for his entertainment in the most lavish manner she could.
5. Mary also rejoiced to see the Lord come into their home, but her first thought was to sit at His feet and hear His word.
6. Martha was very anxious to provide the best entertainment possible for her honored guests and the task put her under tremendous pressure. She got carried away in herself and her serving and so after awhile her conscience began to bother her. She knew her thoughts were

- terribly selfish and sinful. When she found herself serving tables, waiting on everyone, cleaning up the spills all by herself while Mary sat leisurely hearing the Savior's word, she got a little angry. Martha got so upset that she came to the Lord Jesus and said, "Lord, is it nothing to You that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to lend a hand and do her part along with me!"
7. How sad! Martha, for a moment, forgot who she was and to whom she was speaking. She brought upon herself a sobering reprimand and an embarrassing word of reproof from the Lord Jesus Christ that must have made a lasting impression.
  8. The Lord told her, "*Martha! Martha! You are anxious and troubled about many things. There are many things that need to be taken care of but there is only one thing needful. Your sister Mary has chosen the good thing, that which is to her good. She has chosen that thing which shall not be taken away from her.*"
  9. What is our Lord God teaching us here? He is teaching that we must always hold the things of this world with a very loose hand and never allow anything to have first place in our hearts but Christ. (Matt. 6:33, Col. 3:1-3) All the things on this earth need to be labeled in our minds with a skull and cross bones, as poison. If we put them above worship and communion with Christ, they are a curse. The things on this earth are only a blessing in moderation.
  10. All of this happened because Martha allowed the innocent, household affairs of preparing dinner, to come between her and her Lord! Her anger with her sister spiraled into something far worse. She became angry with her God! Martha was doing things that needed to be done and was doing them for the Lord, but she was overdoing them. She was consumed by them. They were important, but she made them far too important. When the cares of this world interfere with the worship of Christ, they bring heartache to our souls.
  11. May God teach us that! The only thing that is needful is what Mary was doing - worshipping Christ. Health and money, property and power, rank and honor, may all be good things in a way, but they are not needful. Many of God's elect never gain all those things while in this world, yet they live happily, die peacefully, and enter into glory at last. The many things for which men and women struggle and fight for will prove not to be needful things.
  12. Christ only is needful! If you have Christ, you have everything you need! Only God's favor is needful! If you have all the riches of God's favor in Christ, you have all your soul's need. Only salvation in Him is needful! If I am saved from my sins against God, nothing else much matters. If you are lost and need to be found, nothing else should matter! Nothing but Christ Jesus and the shedding of his precious blood can do you any good!

### Activity:

- Coloring Page
- Play the game - What is most important - There are many things that are important. I am going to name two things and you tell me what is the most important: 1. "What is more important, playing with the dog or feeding him?" 2. "What is more important, getting what you want or being nice to people?" 3. "What is more important, eating ice cream or eating a good dinner?" 4. "What is more important, exercise or sitting in front of the TV?" 5. What is more important than everything we just talked about? What is more important than playing with or feeding the Dog? What is more important than getting what you want or giving other people what they want? What is more important than exercise or sitting in front of the TV? Christ - NOTHING is more important than learning about Him and worshipping Him.

## One Thing Needful Take Home Overview Sheet

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### Overview of Lesson:

May God teach us that the only thing needful is what Mary was doing - worshiping Christ. Health and money, property and power, rank and honor, may all be good things in a way, but they are not needful. Many of God's elect never gain all those things while in this world, yet they live happily, die peacefully, and enter into glory at last. The many things for which men and women struggle and fight will prove to be not needful things.

Only Christ is needful! If you have Christ you have everything you need! Only God's favor is needful! If you have all the riches of God's favor in Christ, you have all your soul's need. Only salvation is needful! If I am saved from my sins against God, nothing else much matters. If you are lost and need to be found, nothing else should matter! Nothing but Christ Jesus and the shedding of his precious blood can do you any good!

