

**SIBLING RIVALRY**  
**LUKE 10:38-42 / 12-15-19 / P.M.**

**I. WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN THESE SISTERS WHEN JESUS CAME CALLING IN LUKE 10?**

A. Martha hosted Jesus and his disciples in her home, indicating she was the older of the two—Luke 10:38.

1. Martha was busy making preparations for Jesus and his disciples—10:40a.

**Luke 10:40a**

**But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made...**

2. Mary, on the other hand, spent her time listening to Jesus—10:39.

3. Martha complained to Jesus about Mary's lack of help in the kitchen—10:40b.

**Luke 10:40b**

**...She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"**

B. Jesus' response to Martha's complaint.

1. Martha's focus of attention was in the wrong direction according to Jesus—10:41-42a.

**Luke 10:41-42a**

**41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but few things are needed—or indeed only one...**

2. Mary's focus, unlike Martha, was on Jesus and he commended her for it—10:42b.

**Luke 10:42b**

**...Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."**

3. On another occasion when Jesus was in their home, Mary demonstrated she understood what Jesus had been saying about going to Jerusalem to die by anointing him—John 12:1-8.

C. The gospels record three times Jesus was anointed with oil.

1. First, by an unnamed woman with a bad reputation in the home of a Simon the Pharisee—Luke 7:36-50.

2. Second, by an unnamed woman in the home of a Simon the leper--Matthew 26:6-13 and Mark 14:3-9.

3. Third, by Mary, Martha and Lazarus' sister in John 12:1-8.

## II. LESSONS FROM TWO SISTERS.

1. There is a place for showing hospitality to others—Titus 1:8.

### **Titus 1:8**

**...he must be hospitable....**

2. There is no place for comparing ourselves with others. (Martha compared herself with Mary).
3. It's always appropriate to take our concerns to God.
4. It's hard to be humble—Col. 3:23.

### **Colossians 3:23**

**Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord...**

5. Keep your priorities straight—Matt. 6:33.
6. We should mind our own business—1 Thess. 4:11.
7. Stop worrying about what others are doing or not doing—1 Peter 5:7.
8. Don't let things, good or bad, crowd out time with the Lord.