



Daily Reflections

October 10, 2017

Scripture

Luke 10: 38-42

Jesus entered a village
where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him.
She had a sister named Mary
who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak.
Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said,
"Lord, do you not care
that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving?
Tell her to help me."
The Lord said to her in reply,
"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things.
There is need of only one thing.
Mary has chosen the better part
and it will not be taken from her."

Our Scripture Reflection

Why did Jesus praise Mary's posture of listening to Him? Jesus was on a mission and that mission had a sense of urgency. Martha and Mary had one chance to hear Jesus. While hospitality was important, listening to and learning from the Lord at that moment was crucial.

Food for your Journey

A brother went to see Abba Silvanus on the mountain of Sinai. When he saw the brothers working hard, he said to the old man, "Do not labor for the food that perishes. Mary has chosen the good portion."

The old man said to a disciple, "Zacharias, give the brother a book, and put him in a cell without anything else."

So when the ninth hour came, this brother watched the door, expecting someone would be sent to call him to the meal. When no one called him, he got up, went to find the old man, and said to him, "Have the brothers not eaten today?"

The old man replied that they had.

Then he said, "Why did you not call me?"

The old man said to him, "Because you are a spiritual man and do not need that kind of food. We, being carnal, want to eat, and that is why we work. But you have chosen the good portion and read the whole day long, and you do not want to eat carnal food."

When he heard these words, the brother made a prostration, saying, "Forgive me, Abba."

The old man said to him, "Mary needs Martha. It is really thanks to Martha that Mary is praised."

-Dennis Olkholm, www.christianitytoday.com.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Open my ears, my mind, and especially, my heart so that I may learn Your way. Please give me the Grace to put Your way into practice as I live my life each day. Amen.