

# Faith

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## One good thing

By Rev. Connie V. Scott

I've been pondering the story of Mary and Martha quite a bit lately. Most of the time, we read or hear messages about Martha being busy and worried, while Mary chose to sit at the feet of Jesus.

Luke 10:41-42 says, "And Jesus answered and said to her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.'"

Have you ever contemplated what that one good thing really was? I mean, have you ever pressed beyond the traditional teachings heard over and over again, from pulpits around the world and asked the Spirit what that one good thing was (and is)?

That's just what I did, and what Spirit revealed to me, in that moment, is much deeper than anything I've ever been taught.

Let's read this familiar passage again:

"Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, 'Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.'"

"And Jesus answered and said to her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.' (Luke 10:38-42)

Sure, Martha was busy and worried about pleasing the

guests in her home. She invited them there, so everything had to be perfect, right? Mary broke cultural tradition and reclined at the feet of Jesus, listening to what he was sharing. I don't doubt there were others in the house, sitting and hearing what Jesus spoke, but there was something different about Mary.

What is that one good thing Mary chose that was so different and unique from the others?

It's deeper than breaking cultural norms. It's deeper than inviting this holy man into your home. It's deeper than Mary hearing the teachings, because a room full of people heard what he was saying; yet, she chose that one good thing.

I believe the one thing that separated Mary in that moment was this: Mary was in the eternal now. She was fully present, following guidance, asking Holy Spirit her purpose for that moment and with a listening heart followed Spirit.

Beloved, many people hear a lot of teachings. They attend church every chance they can. Many people do many good things. They read scripture, pray, open their homes and give of their time in service to others, but all too often they forget or choose not to ask.

Without fail, when I face a decision — straightforward or seemingly a challenge to my natural thinking — a dear friend asks me this simple, yet powerful question: Have you asked the Spirit? Have you quieted yourself, gone inward and asked?

Scripture tells us to ask, seek and knock (Matthew 7:7-8), and when we do, the answer is given. Mary asked, listened, heard and responded. She didn't just hear, she experienced and demonstrated her Christ identity. And that wasn't taken from her!

We may think a whirlwind is

swirling around us, much like Martha felt, but when we choose that one good thing — to seek Spirit's guidance, look inward for the answer already within (with active listening hearts) and move forward in our purpose — in that moment our thinking is healed and all is perfect in God's eternal love.

King David said it like this in Psalms 27:4, "One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple."

David asked for the Spirit's guidance, listened and moved in his purpose. His heart's desire was not just to do this every once in a while, but he made this his moment-by-moment pursuit. He chose the one good thing; will you?

"For His divine power has bestowed on us [absolutely] everything necessary for [a dynamic spiritual] life and godliness, through true and personal knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence." (2 Peter 1:3 AMP)

I love how the amplified version says it: "he has bestowed upon us [absolutely] everything necessary" — what part of anything is missing from everything?

You guessed it ... nothing is missing!

So, if everything you need for life and godliness is already within you, all you have to do is awaken to that truth. And, you awaken to God's truth by asking Spirit, moment by moment, to guide and direct you into your very purpose. Have you asked?

My friends, this is the one good thing Mary chose. This is the one good thing available to you today. This is the one good thing bringing joy and peace. This is divine eternal perfect love. This is who you are! This will not be taken from you!

