

JULY 17, 2016
NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+
faith
home

Only one thing is important.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 10:38-42	Only one thing needed
Monday	Genesis 18:1-10a	God visits Abraham and Sarah
Tuesday	Isaiah 55:1-6	Listen and eat what is good
Wednesday	2 Peter 1:3-11	Everything we need has been given
Thursday	Matthew 6:25-33	Do not worry
Friday	Philippians 4:6-9	Do not be anxious
Saturday	Psalms 127	Unless the Lord builds the house
Sunday	Luke 11:1-13	Jesus teaches about prayer

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

The Lord answered, “Martha, Martha! You are worried and upset about so many things, but only one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen what is best, and it will not be taken away from her.” **Luke 10:41-42 (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, teach us to look to you for everything we need. Amen. (Luke 10:41-42)

Mealtime Prayer:

God bless the food that here we see. God bless you, and God bless me. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

Child of God, may Jesus calm all your worries. May God give you a faith filled with peace. Amen.



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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- How are the members of your family (or group) alike in personality? How are you different?
- When Jesus visited Mary's house, Martha was busy working, while Mary sat listening to Jesus. Jesus said that Mary had chosen what was better. What do you think he meant?
- When do you set aside time to listen to Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Jesus said to Martha, “You are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed” (Luke 10:41). In your home devotion times this week, share any worries that are on your mind. Pray about these concerns, asking God to care for you and give you peace. Recite these words together from Philippians 4:6-7. “Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand.”

SERVICE

Two of Sunday's readings illustrate excellent hospitality. Abraham and Sarah treated their guests like royalty (Genesis 18:1-8). Mary welcomed Jesus with her undivided attention (Luke 10:38-39). Think of someone outside of your usual circle of relatives and friends to invite to your home this week.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Even when we are busy, we need to take time to listen to Jesus, as Mary did. Take time each day to hear God speak to you. Decide on a time during the day when members of the household will be available—perhaps before or after breakfast or at dinnertime. Try this simple format:

- a) Talk about the highs and lows of your day;
- b) Read the Daily Bible Readings;
- c) Discuss the meaning of the story or passage for your lives at the moment;
- d) Reflect quietly on what you have heard; and,
- e) Conclude with prayer.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org