

Katalyst



Church



AGRICULTURAL LANGUAGE to explain spiritual truths

**Flourish - fruit, growth, pruning, blossom, nourish,
water, cultivate, feed, sowing, planting, reaping, harvest,
nourishment, seeds, sprout, sapling, roots, foliage, branches,
leaves, trunk, shelter, strength, life.**

Gods design for us to live extraordinary, remarkable,
exceptional lives - Not just survive or endure life.

Soil: Heart that pursues righteous Godly things.

Hungers after serving the Lord

Sow: Position ourselves to invest into practices, disciplines
and behaviours that will reap a abounding harvest.

Water: We also rely on the water of the Holy Spirit to enable
us to THRIVE: The capacity to Thrive is book ended by the
former and latter rain: Our faith is launched by the Baptism
of the Holy Spirit and constantly renewed by showers of His
grace. Initial immersion followed by the flow of rivers of
living waters

Tension in Scripture between the things God has done
and could only do and the things I need to do:

A case for the utter finished work of Christ - Justification

A case for ongoing maturity and holiness - Sanctification

Works versus Grace

Calvinism Versus Armenians

What if this is a “both and” scenario?

Are there things only God can do to enable me to **THRIVE**

Are there things I have freedom to chose to do which will
help me **Thrive**, which God will not chose for me?

Grace is the call to respond to that tension out of

Liberty and Love not Legalism and Laws

Adoration or Obligation?

A large, leafy tree with a thick trunk and many branches stands in a field of tall, dry grass. The sky is bright and slightly hazy. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

the

ONE
THING

needed

Luke 10:38-42

Jesus entered a village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying.

But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her to help me.

"But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:38-42).

Living like Mary in a Martha World

The story of Jesus' visit to Mary and Martha typecasts the circumstances most of us experience in our pursuit of intimacy and growth with the Lord:

Mary is focused on Jesus, worship, listening to the word of God, being still - Mary is content to "be" with Jesus in His presence

There are seasons in our lives when we know our position and priorities mirror Mary

Martha is focused on self, busy, distracted, jealous, critical, upset.

Martha is compelled to "do" things for Jesus.

- There are seasons in our lives when we know our position and priorities mirror Martha

Jesus clearly endorses what Mary has chosen

Martha is corrected for the unwise choice she has made and through Jesus' gentle rebuke we appreciate afresh the vital key to our own personal spiritual life.

Living like Mary in a Martha World

There will always be distractions, pressing priorities and appointments:

There will always be worries - Health, Finances, Work, Children

There are always tasks to do - Things which easily occupy and consume our time.

**Modify + centre our lives around practicing
or experiencing the presence of God
in everything we do.**

Living like Mary in a Martha World

The presence of God should be:

Something we are experiencing all the time

Something we are hungry to encounter more of

Something we value, cherish, chase

Something we know is the ultimate pursuit of life

Something we appreciate avails us of peace, power, perspective

Something we recognise involves reverence and awe

Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favour with me.’ If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you. Remember that this nation is your people.” The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?” Exodus 33: 12-16

Thriving is NOT Striving



Immersing ourselves in Gods presence

Living like Mary in a Martha World

Instead of craving a vibrant relationship with God, we settle for a house, a family, a few friends, a career, a TV and DVD to the point where our hunger for spiritual nourishment and intimacy with Jesus is dulled.

“Don’t fill up on Junk food you wont eat your dinner it will spoil your appetite”.

We don’t want our souls stuffed with small things, so that there is no room for the great.

Cultivate a lifestyle of WORSHIP where we include the Lord in everything we do

Living like Mary in a Martha World

Cultivate a Lifestyle of constant dialogue

Ongoing Praying without ceasing - Conversations

Nurture an Inclusion, Reliance - Expectancy

De-clutter our busy agenda's

Schedule time alone with God

Foster a lifestyle of worship not timeslots of worship

**A seamless flow of continuously
acknowledging Gods presence in everything.**

**We will only seek to do that when we have
a desperate need for His inclusion**

Living like Mary in a Martha World

Mary had the good sense to bask in the presence of God

Jesus tells Martha that Mary has chosen the better thing

It isn't just the better thing it is the ultimate thing

To pay homage to Jesus, to sit at His feet, to express our love for Him, to acknowledge who He is, all his attributes, splendour, majesty, glory - Doesn't require us to do, it requires us to be! Be STILL

A Mary heart in a Martha World

A worship heart in a hectic World

Living like Mary in a Martha World

We are not monastics living a life of extreme solitude and meditation, but we need to recognise the better thing is living out of the presence of God

There's nothing worth more that would ever come close,
No thing can compare, You're our living Hope,
Your presence, Lord.

I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,
When my heart becomes free and my shame is undone,
Your presence, Lord.

Holy Spirit You are welcome here,
Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere.
Your glory God is what our hearts long for,
To be overcome by Your presence, Lord.

Worship of God shouldn't be contingent on our
circumstances

The moment we use the words I, us, we - Actually distort
the very essence of worship - We make worship about how I
am or am not feeling.

God is worthy of praise, adoration simply for who He is,
not even because He has done great things for us.

Recognise that worship is our vehicle to the presence of God
and the presence of God is transformational.

Come as you are