

Saved to Be Served So We Will Serve – Part 2

Luke 10:36-42; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; August 6, 2017

The Call to Serve

³⁶ Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' *hands*?" ³⁷ And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

1. The story of the Good Samaritan and the story about Mary and Martha are both about serving.
2. There is a connection between the story of the Good Samaritan and the story about Mary and Martha.
3. The story of the Good Samaritan can sound like Sunday School 'moralism': this how God wants us to live, now 'go and do the same.'
4. The story about Mary and Martha highlights the truth that the story of the Good Samaritan is not primarily about our serving others but about God serving us so we will serve others in the right way with the right heart. (1 Corinthians 13:3)

The Readiness to Serve

³⁸ Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.

1. The Lord Jesus enters the home of a family that he dearly loved.

- Jesus and the Twelve were traveling (Luke 9:51) (Hendriksen)
- This certain village must be Bethany (John 11:1; 12:1-3) – less than 2 miles east of Jerusalem and on the eastern slope of Mt of Olives (Hendriksen)
- Martha was the older of the two sisters and the owner of the home (Morris)
- Lazarus was their brother (John 11:5) (Hendriksen)
- 'welcome' means to 'welcome, receive' not invite (Hendriksen)

2. Martha was a true believer.

- The story has a glorious ending because Martha later makes two of the most marvelous professions of faith found in Scripture (John 11:21-27) (Hendriksen)

3. Martha was doing a wonderful thing.

- Doctrine of hospitality: Romans 12:13; 1 Timothy 3:2; 1 Timothy 5:10; Titus 1:8; Hebrews 13:2; 1 Peter 4:9
- Hospitality = 'love of strangers/guests in your home'

4. Martha was doing an expected thing.

- Martha welcomed Jesus and began to do what ‘welcoming’ looked like in that culture: preparing a meal and attending to their needs. - Genesis 18:1-8; John 2:1-11
- Every culture has a set of expectations that can rule our lives and prevent us from adjusting according to the need of the moment or proper priorities. – Mark 7:1-13

The Readiness to Be Served

³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord’s feet, listening to His word.

1. Mary is known in Scripture for her worship.

What does Mary mean? Was Mary being ‘counter-cultural’? Was Mary being ‘lazy’? Was Mary being ‘selfish’? Was Mary the sedentary type?

Mary would later anoint the feet of Jesus (John 12:3; Matthew 26:6, 7; Mark 14:3) (Hendriksen)

2. But worship needs to be seen as seeking to be served by God.

Doctrine: satisfaction through the Scriptures – Psalm 19, 119 (see Psalm 34:8)

3. Jesus was serving Mary by ministering the truth to her heart.

John 8:31-32

4. We cannot be served by God if we sit in judgment on the Word rather than under the judgment of the Word.

We can sit in judgment over the Word or at the feet of the Lord, under the judgment of the Word!

5. My time in the Word and worship is for the purpose of God serving me, not me serving God!

Psalm 23:1-6

Conclusion

We are called to serve. But how and why we serve is very important.

How are you serving your family? Your workplace? Your neighbors/community? Your church?