

The One Thing Necessary - Ron Stullenbarger -

We were created to spend time with God. Just as God's chief desire is for relationship with us, our chief purpose in life is relationship with Him. There is no life apart from Him. Scripture says in Acts 17:28, *"In him we live and move and have our being."* We should seek to be a people of vision, but we must recognize there are boundaries. Jesus tells us the one thing that's necessary to do this in Luke 10:38-42. *"Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.'"*

If I asked you what one thing is necessary, what would your response be? If I even asked you for the one thing Jesus says is necessary, what would your response have been? Jesus destroys our value system with two sentences: *"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."* Allow that truth to settle in for a minute. **One thing is necessary.** One thing is required. It is to sit at the feet of Jesus. Above everything we could do for Him, He wants us to sit at His feet. Above providing for our family or serving our church, He wants us to sit at His feet.

If there is one thing we need to have vision for, it is our relationship with God. Would Jesus say that you are choosing the good portion? Or would He say that you are *"anxious and troubled about many things."* Are you spending your time investing in that which Jesus promises will never be taken away from you? Or are you investing your life in that which won't have value past your time here?

If there is one thing to set boundaries around, it's our time spent communing with the Father. Many find themselves far more concerned about whether or not they show up to work on time than they do to their dedicated time with God. They find themselves far more anxious and troubled about their relationship with others than they do about their relationship with Jesus. If it's really true that only one thing is necessary, we need to fight for that one thing above all else. We need to devote ourselves to sitting at the feet of Jesus above every other pursuit.