16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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."

Some things to think about...

When you look at the story of Mary and Martha, which do you feel most like?
Mary - who sits at Jesus' feet and listens to him speak.
Or Martha - who is rushing around working and serving.

Christians are called to do both of these.
Our service of the poor and disadvantaged in our community is when we are like Martha. Our time when we sit and reflect in the presence of God is like Mary in this story. A balance of both will help us to live a fulfilling life.

Activity

With your Mini Vinnies, think about being prayerful like Mary by completing the "Make a prayerful space" activity.

Teacher's Notes

As Christians we are called to love God and love people. The story of Mary and Martha shows the two different sides of this: - Mary - Who sits at Jesus' feet and listens to him speak. - Martha - Who is rushing around working and serving. Our time spent in reflection and prayer allows us to be more focused and achieve more to help people when we are out in the world helping people.

Martha and Mary are sisters of Lazarus, and, aside from Jesus' mother, they are among the most well-known women in the Bible. They were present for one of Jesus' most astonishing miracles. For many, their most significant role in the Gospels is tied to the story of Jesus' visit to their home. During this encounter, Jesus delivered a lesson on priorities that remains relevant to this day.

Notes: