

The Life Of Jesus

LUKE 10:38-42

Luke 9:38-42 New English Translation

Now as they went on their way,
Jesus entered a certain village
where a woman named Martha
welcomed him as a guest.

ISRAEL

IN THE TIME OF JESUS

River
Jordan

Bethany

Jerusalem

Dead
Sea

0 10 miles
0 10 km



Luke 8:1-3 Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.



Luke 9:38-42 New English Translation

³⁹ She had a sister named Mary,
who sat at the Lord's feet and
listened to what he said.

Luke 9:38-42 New English Translation

³⁹ She had a sister named Mary,
who sat at the Lord's feet and
listened to what he said. ⁴⁰ But
Martha was distracted with all
the preparations she had to make

Luke 9:38-42 New English Translation

so she came up to him and said,
“Lord, don’t you care that my
sister has left me to do all the
work alone? Tell her to help me.”

⁴¹ But the Lord answered her,
“Martha, Martha, you are worried
and troubled about many
things, ⁴² but one thing is needed.
Mary has chosen the best part; it
will not be taken away from her.”

Martha has a prayer life, doesn't she? She comes and says, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to serve you alone? Tell her to help me." That's a prayer. But notice Martha is after *things* in her prayer.

When Mary comes to Jesus, she's after *Jesus*, and that's all the difference in the world.

Pastor Tim Keller

The Meaning of Jesus: Part 2; Following Him 3/2/03 Redeemer Pres. Church

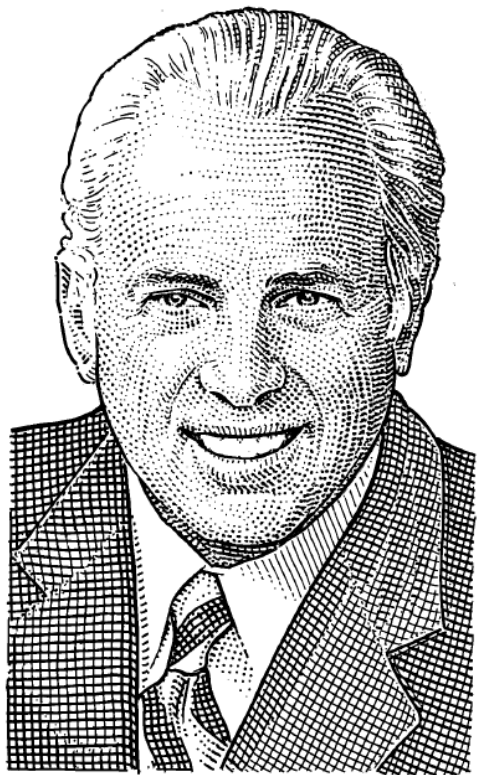


1. When we pray, there is nothing wrong with making our requests known to God. However, it's not difficult to go from requesting to being *demanding*. Be on guard against believing that God should adopt your best ideas about life and that He should carry out your desires.



“Priority” is a very commonly used word in our time. And I think as our society becomes more frantic, more disjointed, disconnected, more mobile, more involved, as life speeds up and becomes literally engulfed in so many different things, the word "priority"

seems to be constantly on the lips of people who are trying to sort out life and get some kind of pecking order in terms of the things they need to be committed to.

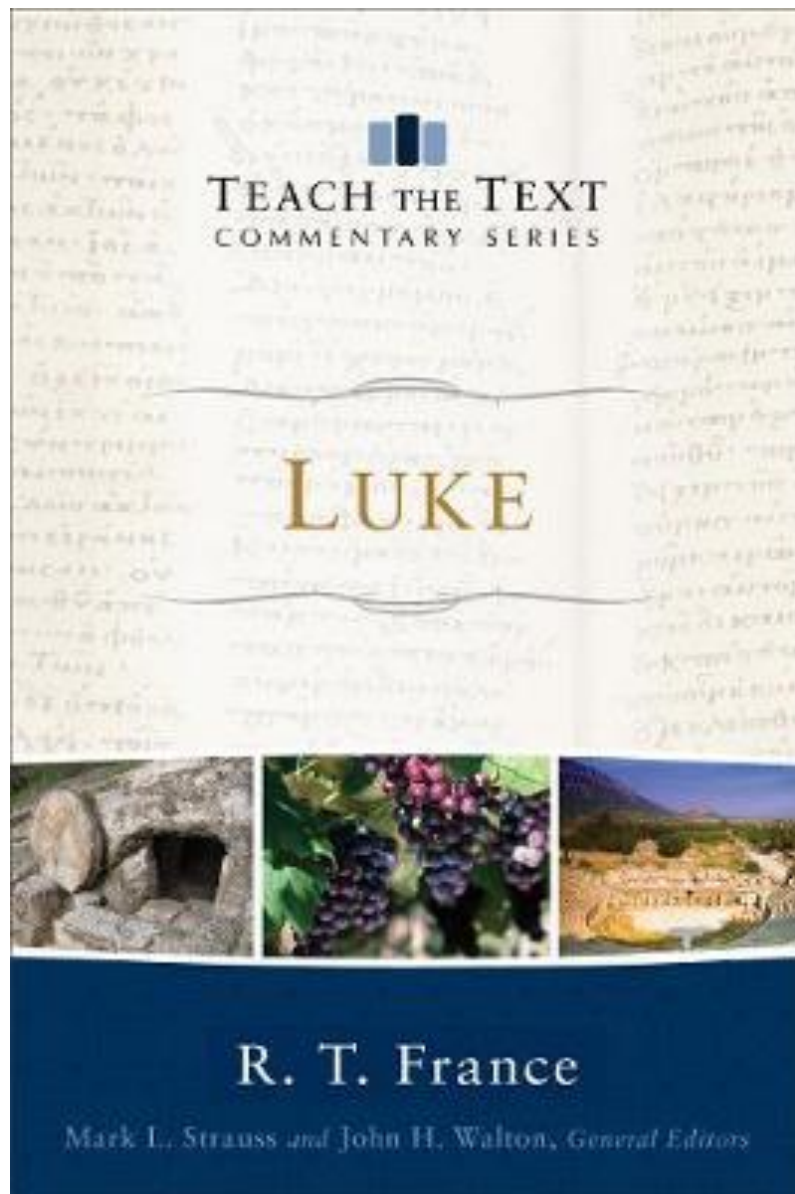


We have books on priorities, setting priorities. You can hire people to come in and teach you how to prioritize things.

It's really become a very, ***very popular word because it seems to be a very great need in our complex time.***



2. As you examine the priorities of Martha & Mary in this story, you should also reflect on your priorities. Are you willing to rearrange your priorities so that you don't neglect to spend time listening and learning from Jesus? Remember that we, "don't live on bread alone but by every word that comes from the Lord." There is no doubt that serving is a central part of Christian living, but even serving can be a distraction from making time to listen to and learn from God.



“Mary has chosen the best part” Spiritual food should take priority over physical food. Martha’s desire to provide hospitality was not wrong in itself, but at that moment she had her priorities wrong.

-R.T. France, *Teaching the Text: Luke*. page 203