

Choosing the Better Role

Luke 10:38-42

Mary and Martha were sisters, but their response to Jesus' visit was quite different. Martha responded in the traditional way expected of a woman. Mary responded in a way that was much more conducive to her personal and spiritual growth.

1. **READ Luke 10:38-42.** What do you picture Martha doing as Jesus talks to Mary (*Luke 10:40*)? What do you think she is feeling?
2. Why does Martha complain to Jesus (*Luke 10:40*)? What does Martha think Jesus' expectations of her are?
3. How do you think Mary was feeling before Martha was upset? How do you think she feels after Martha gets upset?
4. Martha displays both positive and negative qualities. From your observation of her and of Jesus' comment what is her root problem?
5. Why hadn't Martha responded to her real need(s)?
6. What does Jesus mean by "*one thing is needed*" (*Luke 10:42*)?
7. To choose what is better is the second mark of true disciples. What qualities do you observe in people who, like Mary, "*choose what is better*"?
8. Which character in this story do you most closely relate to?