

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Distractions are one of the main hurdles to being a good neighbor. When we're distracted, we can miss out on what God's doing around us.

Read Luke 10:38–42.

How would you summarize this story in your own words? What's the main point?

Do you typically identify more with Martha or with Mary in this story? Why?

What was the main issue that Martha had at the party? Why did Mary's actions make Martha upset? Who did Jesus commend at the end of the story and why?

Martha's service wasn't the issue—it was the fact that her service was distracting her from being fully engaged with Jesus. **When, if at all, have you allowed serving someone to distract you from truly being *with* them?**

Martha shows us that even when we're doing really good things, we can still miss out on the "main thing." **In what ways have you experienced missing out on something due to distractions?**

Being distracted can keep us from engaging with those around us, which was what happened with Martha. The story of Mary and Martha shows us the importance of shifting our priorities for the sake of the moment. Mary's priority was to engage, while Martha prioritized making sure everything was done. **What could it look like to prioritize time spent with the people in your neighborhood?**

These verses show us how our perspective about what's important can impact the way we spend our time. **What are some ways you spend your free time? What could you do to spend some time engaging with the people in your neighborhood this week?**

