

Lesson 2: Priorities

Today's Bible Story

Jesus and his disciples used to travel from place to place meeting new people. Often crowds would gather to hear Jesus teach about God. Jesus helped many people who were in need. He healed the sick, cast out demons, and told the people that God's kingdom had come.

One day, Jesus and his disciples were traveling through the town of Bethany, near Jerusalem. Bethany was the town where Jesus' friends Martha, Mary, and Lazarus lived. When they arrived in the village, Martha welcomed Jesus and the disciples into her home.

Martha quickly got busy in the house preparing food to offer her guests. She was very concerned about all the things she thought she needed to do. There was food to cook, beds to be made, water to be brought from the well, and dishes to be washed.

But Mary stayed with the other disciples and sat down in front of the Lord so that she could listen to what Jesus was teaching.

When Martha saw that her sister Mary was not helping her, she went to Jesus and said, "Lord, doesn't it bother you that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her to come and help me!"

Then Jesus answered, "Martha, I know that you are worried and upset about so many things. All these things may be important, but only one thing is necessary. Mary is here listening to my Word. She has chosen what is best, and it will not be taken away from her."



From Luke 10:38-42

Bible Rhyme

Jesus moved from town to town,
teaching all who gathered 'round.
One day he visited the house of
Mary and her sister Martha.

Martha always kept so busy,
working hard 'til she was dizzy.
Mary sat before the Lord
and listened to his every word.

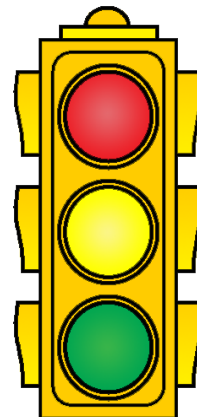
When Martha started to complain,
Jesus told her to refrain.
"Mary's chosen what is best —
the one thing that's above the rest."

The lights on a traffic signal tell vehicles when to stop and go. Colored red, yellow, and green, the lights help to direct and control traffic.

RED
top light

YELLOW
middle light

GREEN
bottom light



Use these colors to fill in the circles below according to which color light you think best represents each word or phrase.

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| ☐ | put on the brakes | ☐ | keep moving forward | | |
| ☐ | slow down | ☐ | full speed ahead | ☐ | be cautious |
| ☐ | rest a minute | ☐ | be ready to stop soon | | |
| ☐ | don't keep going | ☐ | drive on through | ☐ | halt here |

In the Ten Commandments, God says: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." Like a red light, the word "Sabbath" means to stop, rest, or take a break. God wants us to stop and pay attention to his Word on a regular basis.

Use RED to fill in the circles below where you take time to listen to God's Word in your life.

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| ☐ | going to church | ☐ | doing your chores | ☐ | playing sports |
| ☐ | reading the Bible | ☐ | doing homework | | |
| ☐ | watching TV | ☐ | attending Sunday School | ☐ | taking a shower |
| ☐ | listening to the pastor's sermon | ☐ | playing video games | | |

1) Were the things Martha was doing wrong?

2) What was the better thing Mary had chosen?