

The One Thing Needed

Luke 10:38-42

Introduction:

- A. Hired immigrant told to grease the wagon – greased everything but the hub.
- B. Martha's fault was not what she did – lost sight of the one thing needed
- C. We must not lose sight of the "one thing needed" in all of life's activities.

Discussion:

I. In Our *Vocations*.

- A. **It is not:** Money, security, happiness, nor "moving up".
 - 1. Yet, each of these is important.
 - 2. Must work and provide things (Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:8; 2 Thess. 3:10).
- B. **It is:** Conditions that will allow us to be strong Christians daily.

II. In Our *Schedules*.

- A. **It is not** many good things that fill our time.
 - 1. Times and place many good things (Eccl. 3:1-8).
 - 2. There is a time to:
 - a. Work (Eph. 4:28)
 - b. Socialize (Lk. 10:38-42; John 2:1-11)
 - c. Vacation (Mk. 6:31).
- B. **It is** scheduling activities around Lord's work, not vice versa. (Cf. Pres. Garfield).

III. In Our *Budgets*.

- A. **It is not:** Food, clothing, shelter, transportation, recreation – all good and needed.
- B. **It is** planning spending around Lord's work, not vice versa.
 - 1. Old Testament required first fruits to Lord.
 - 2. Must give as have prospered (1 Cor. 16:1-2).
 - 3. Lay up treasure in heaven (Mt. 6:19-21; 1 Tim. 6:18-19).
 - 4. Illustration: Little girl's nickels.

IV. In Our *Education*.

- A. **It is not** secular education – though very important.
- B. **It is** spiritual education (Acts 17:11; 2 Tim. 3:7; 2 Tim. 2:15).
 - 1. Not human wisdom above God's wisdom.
 - 2. Not school work above Bible study work.

V. In Our *Community*.

- A. **It is not** how much community service and civic projects we can manage.
- B. **It is** how much we "shine as lights in the world." (Phil. 2:15).
 - 1. Watch compromising entanglements in lodges, clubs, etc.
 - 2. Watch letting civic work overshadow church work.

VI. In Our *Appearance*.

- A. **It is not** style, comfort, beauty – none necessarily bad.
- B. **It is** appearing as one professing godliness (1 Tim. 2:9,10; 1 Pet. 3:3,4).
 - 1. Appearance can reflect attitudes: Materialism, laziness, sensuality, pride – or godliness.
 - 2. Appearance should be governed both by what Bible teaches and general perceptions.

VII. In Our *Marriages*.

- A. **It not** good looks, good provider or good housekeeper – though needed.
- B. **It is:** will he or she make it easier or harder for family to go to heaven.

VIII. In Our *Worship*.

- A. **It not** the place – physical atmosphere (John 4:20, 21)
- B. **It is** worshiping in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

Conclusion:

- A. Are we greasing everything but the hub?
- B. Are we majoring in minors?