A Meal with Jesus Series

“Sisters” (Luke 10:38-42)

Recap:

* Bad People (Luke 5:27-32, Calling of Levi (Matthew))
* Surprise Guest (Luke 7:36-50, Sinful Woman)
* A Loaded Roster (Luke 14:1-24, Wedding Feast and Great Banquet)
* Just Say No (Mark 1:29-39)
* Feeding of the Fiver Thousand (Luke 9:10-17)
  + The Host (vv. 10-11)
  + The Zealots (John 6:15)
  + The Disciples (Matthew 14:15-18)

Introduction:

* Luke 10:38-42
* What is Better?
* What matters most to us?
* The Story of Mary and Martha is about choosing what is better. Today I want us to examine the three characters in this story.

1. Mary (vv. 38-39)
   1. Set at the Lord’s Feet (Jewish Idiom)
      1. Specific
      2. Counter-Cultural
      3. Changes
   2. Specific
      1. Acts 22:3
      2. Formal learning relationship
      3. Discipleship Relationship with Jesus
   3. Counter-Cultural
      1. Mary is a woman.
      2. Women were not invited in this type of relationship.
      3. Jesus did not follow the Social Custom
      4. Women were first witnesses to his resurrection. He valued women and raised their status.
      5. Invited all sorts of outsiders.
         1. You are invited to learn from Jesus.
         2. We should be the most inviting people on the planet.
      6. Who are you inviting? Who are you welcoming?
   4. Changes
      1. It changes you.
      2. Disciple to Rabbi is about relationship.
         1. Not just about knowledge
         2. About Change
         3. You become like the Rabbi.
      3. To sit at the feet of Jesus to humbly listen to the voice of Jesus, is not just for information but for transformation.
      4. Are we sitting at the feet of Jesus?
2. Martha (v. 40)
   1. Distracted
      1. A lot of people
      2. She invited Jesus!!!
      3. Wants the best.
   2. Initially chose what was best but got distracted.
   3. Accusing Jesus that he does not care and demanded Jesus t ask her sister to help.
3. Jesus (vv. 41-42)
   1. Jewish Culture when a name is repeated (Luke 13:34)
   2. He is not angry with you.
   3. You need to hear the voice of Jesus repeating your name.
   4. Goes straight to the heart. What is motivating her thinking and behavior?
      1. Hospitality was important.
      2. Pressure to Serve Jesus
      3. Expectations: did not want to disappoint
      4. Comparisons: Her Sister

Conclusion:

* Mary chose what is better.
* Do we need to choose what is better?
* Through this interaction of Mary, Martha, and Jesus, we see the heart of Jesus for us to humbly listen to his voice not just for information, but for transformation. We are challenged to not let the worries and distractions of life keep us from following him.