

# **We Worship God with Our Presence – Elementary-Teen**

**Luke 10:38-42**

**February 9, 2025**

## **Grow in Faith (Info for teachers)**

*Today's Bible story tells about a time Jesus visited the home of two sisters, Martha and Mary. When Jesus arrived, Martha welcomed him as a guest. This was a typical form of hospitality during biblical times. People were expected to extend great hospitality to guests, whether you knew them or not. In contrast, Martha sister, Mary, wasn't helping welcome the guests. She was sitting at Jesus' feet and listening to His teachings. To understand the gravity of Martha's complaint, we must again consider the cultural norms of the time. A seat at the feet of a teacher was likely not considered a place for women. Mary was expected to be helping her sister.*

*Jesus responded to their differing actions by saying, "Mary has chosen the better part." It could be that he was affirming women's inclusion among his followers. However, this could also be a reminder that sometimes what is expected and what is important are different. When we pay attention to what matters, we might notice where God is leading us. And sometimes, where our presence is needed might just change our perspectives.*

## **Come Together**

### **Prepare to Learn – What's Your Schedule?**

*Supplies: White board and pens or a large piece of paper. Write the days of the week across the top of the paper (Sunday – Saturday)*

**Say:** Let's talk about the different things we do on a weekly basis. Let's try to include all the things in our 'schedules' like school, sports, homework, chores, family time, getting ready, etc.

*Have kids write out (or select a scribe) what they do during a specific day. The point of the activity is to get a visual representation of the busy schedules we all have.*

**Say:** We all have some busy schedules. From the time we wake up to the time we go to bed, we must go-go-go to get it all done. **Ask:** Do you ever feel like you're going to forget to do something you're supposed to do or forget to go somewhere you're supposed to?

**Say:** We must do chores around the house, go to school, eat, and shower (hopefully).... right? And it's a great thing to be able to play sports, play an instrument, spend time with friends, and all those other things we enjoy? These are all good, but sometimes we get so busy with good things that we miss out on some great things.

### **Faith Focus – We Worship God Together in Different Ways**

**Ask:** We just talked about our schedules. How or where do we spend time with God?

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**Say:** Our Bible story is about that very question. Let's pray then hear the story for today.

**Prayer:**

Thank you, God, for all the ways we can praise you. Help us to pay attention to you this week. Amen.

## **Open the Bible**

**Say:** Mary and Martha were friends of Jesus'. Jesus showed up to visit them one day. Let's find out how Mary and Martha spent their time with Jesus.

In person class will watch Big Faith DVD

### **Watch the video.**

**Say:** Jesus understood why Martha was so upset. He understood why she was working so hard to make everything right. But Jesus wanted Martha to see that there was something more important. She was doing good things, but she had missed out on the most important thing. The most important thing is spending time with Jesus. Just like Martha, we can get so busy with other things that we miss out on the most important thing, spending time with Jesus. In our busy lives, we need to focus on spending some time with Jesus. You still need to do those other things, especially the things you're asked to do by parents or teachers. However, we need to be sure that we make time in our schedule to meet with God.

**Ask:** How can we spend time with God? (We can spend time with Him by praying, reading Scripture, going to church, and loving others).

## **Faith Response**

*The following activities will depend on your group. If it is a larger group with several younger kids, it can be split, and activities can be done separately. Read through them and decide what works best for your group. For younger kids, there will be worksheets and coloring sheets available for them to do.*

### **1. Identify the Sounds – Activity**

**Supplies:** None

**Instructions:**

**Say:** In our busy lives, sometimes we forget to stop and listen to the world around us. Let's see how good you are at identifying everyday sounds.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gG0j5Urd9z4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQTgunGmJGc>

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## **2. Worshiping God through Music – Activity**

**Say:** The Scriptures we read and the songs we sing in worship teach us about God. Let's spend time listening to worship music. As we listen, draw what the words make you feel or write words that stand out to you.

- Give each kid something to write with and a piece of paper.
- Listen to the music and invite the kids to draw or write how the music makes them feel or write the words that stand out to them.

[Turn, Turn, Turn](#) (Chris de Burgh) (Ecclesiastes 3)

[Worship Music](#)

**Say:** When we listen attentively, we can learn more about God and God's love for us.

## **3. The Rainbow Game**

Grateful for God's Blessings

**Say:** Last week we talked about the importance of praying. Hopefully you've used your prayer jars to remember to pray to God this week. Prayer is also a way we worship God. We're going to play a game a game that's part prayer and part listening.

*Give each kid a piece of paper. Have them make a circle using any color marker they'd like. Then explain the rules below.*

- Each person takes turns sharing one item they are grateful for.
- Each person draws a circle on their hand in whatever color they choose.
- When it's a player's turn, he or she holds up their hand, and tells what they are thankful for and responds with their color choice. It might be green (grass, trees), red (apples, rosy cheeks, strawberries), blue (water, sky), yellow (sun, lemons).
- The first player will share one of these examples. The next player will repeat that example and add their own and so on.

## **Share Your Faith**

**Say:** Praising God can look different for different people. Sometimes it looks like listening to music and reading God's word. Sometimes it means serving others and caring for someone's needs. Let's look at our busy schedules again. Ask: Where/How can we find time to listen for God this week? What are some good ways we can add God into our weeks?