



# JOURNEY GROUPS

MAR 22 LEADER GUIDE

## LEADERS NOTES

A few notes for you as a leader as you meet again this week:

- One of the visions for our Journey Groups is that they would be a place where each person gets to practice being a brother or a sister in Christ to another. How might your group practice that, either in fellowship, prayer, or service, this week?
- Remember, a sermon-based study is not a second sermon, but a place for spiritual formation and application. Move your participants from hearing the Word to understanding it, and then to responding to it. Cultivate obedience, not merely insights (cf. Jas 1:22).
- As you reread the passage, try to highlight (whether it was in the sermon or not) the key things it says about God, people, sin, & grace, and, in so doing, model for your group what to look for in studying the Bible.
- As you walk through the questions with your group, try to identify the “link” between them, helping your group and yourself see how they build as we walk through the sermon passage together.

## SHARE - ICE BREAKERS

- What is something you do often or have done for a long time, which gives you a sense of accomplishment?
- If you had a completely free, uninterrupted hour tomorrow, what would you want to do with it?
- If you were hosting a dinner party and could focus on only ONE thing, what would you choose and why: A) perfect food, B) clean home, C) meaningful conversation, or D) relaxed environment?

# STUDY

## Digging Deeper into "Perfect Posture - Week 3"

1. Matt began on Sunday, quoting the Lead Pastor of Christ's Church of the Valley in Phoenix, who said his #1 goal for his church is to "Stay in a posture of dependency on God." What does that mean?
2. What were the first two postures we talked about in this sermon series? (Jacob kneeling and Jesus washing his disciples' feet)
3. What were we to learn from these two postures? (Jacob = reconciliation requires humility. Jesus = we are to have a humble, servant's heart towards each other.)
4. For this week's perfect posture, let's read **Luke 10:38-41**.
5. What an amazing opportunity for Mary and Martha! To host the Messiah.
6. Martha comes across as the "hostess with the most-est." But how is Jesus the true host? (A host welcomes people, and Jesus welcomes us to God)
7. As this short little story starts. Where do we find Mary?
8. How did Mary get into this position? Does it say that she was invited by Jesus? If not, how else would she find herself there? (The original language implies that she sat *herself* in front of Jesus).
9. What is so significant about Mary being allowed to sit with all the other disciples?
10. Why do you think Martha was so frustrated with Mary and Jesus?
11. Martha breaks good host etiquette; she accosts her guest. **Reread verse 40.** What was she expecting Jesus to do? And what is she implying about Jesus in the way she asks her questions?
12. What has shaped Martha's perspective, and why is that important for us to be aware of in our personal lives? (Martha's activities shaped her loves and her longings in life more than Jesus shaped them)
13. What do you think Mary was feeling when Martha accosted Jesus this way?
14. Have someone read **verses 41-42**. (Read this in the ESV, if possible)
15. What strikes you about Jesus' response? How is there both truth and tenderness in what He says? (He points us toward the "good portion," the "right" meal, which is His Word [Luke 4:4], and which satisfies Mary and us).

16. Its not uncommon for us to miss the big picture. Its easy to pick on Martha, but we're not all a bunch of Marys all the time! When are you most likely to be distracted and to become worried and upset about many things?
17. Matt shared a quote from Pastor Warren Wiersbe: "Few things are as damaging to the Christian life as trying to work for Christ without taking time to commune with Christ." Why is this quote so true?
18. What can we learn from the posture that Mary took, as opposed to Martha's? What should our takeaway from the story be regarding our vertical relationship with God? (We can be so distracted by service for God that we ignore God)
19. How might we reframe and refocus our service for God, in a relational way, that helps us not lose sight of the reason why we do it? (Hint: several possible answers, but one clear one is doing that service with a consistent awareness of God and constant contact with Him as our source of grace).
20. Why do you think it is critical for a disciple to pay close attention to Jesus in everyday life? (We can potentially practice our faith and still miss Him if we do not keep an attentiveness to Him as both the focus of our devotion **and** our companion).
21. This passage is about disciples and Jesus, but also about disciples among themselves. How does your busyness affect the way you relate to others?
22. How can this Journey Group prioritize presence with Jesus over performance, that is, just completing activities together?
23. How can we do a better job this week of sitting still in His presence? What is one activity you can limit this week to be more attentive to Jesus?

## PRAYER

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