

National Junior High Sunday 2023

“Worried and Distracted” based on Luke 10:40-42

Scripture Jam
by Becky Ullom Naugle

*Three voices are needed.

1: Now as they went on their way,

2: Who went on their way?

3: Now it came to pass, as they went,

2: Um, hello?still don't know who is on the trip....?

1 and 3: THE DISCIPLES AND JESUS.

2: (*indignant*) Oh. Well why didn't you just say so?

1 & 3: he entered a certain village and a woman named Martha welcomed him.

2: so the “he” is.....?

1 & 3:Jesus.

2: Right, right. I figured. Ok so Jesus and the disciples show up at Martha's house. Go on...

3: And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.

1: She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying.

2: Wait....like she actually sat at his feet? That's kinda weird. *(1 & 3 turn silently to watch as 2 talks it through. 2 thinks for a moment and then continues)* Weren't Jesus' feet probably dirty and smelly from the journey? *(still thinking. Then gets it!)* Aw snap this is symbolism, isn't it?! Mary may have actually been sitting at his feet, but more importantly we are just supposed to know that Mary was really tuned in, really listening to Jesus right? *(1 & 3 wait a beat, then nod silently for a beat or two, then face forward and continue.)* Ok cool, so Mary is listening to Jesus. What's Martha doing?

3: But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? Bid her therefore that she help me.

2: *(turning to 1)* cumbered? Like Martha's serving cucumbers?

1: But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."

2: Ew....Awkward! *(starts thinking)*

3: *(continuing quickly)* And Jesus –

2: *(interjecting, unaware)...*And totally relatable. *(thinking)*

1: And Jesus....*(comically waiting to see if 2 is going to interrupt again, then continues)....***And Jesus said –**

2: *(interjecting again, unaware. 1 and 3 can react)...***This is why I hate group projects. (1 & 3 turn silently to watch 2.) There is always someone with a spreadsheet or a To Do list and I just want to be with people and try to get my head around things before we worry about the nitty gritty, you know?**

1: *(wait a beat, then face forward and continue. 3 continues to look at 2)* **But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed—indeed only one.**

2: *(silently takes out phone and starts scrolling/texting/playing, obviously distracted.)*

3: *(face forward when 1 finishes)* **And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.**

1: Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.

1 & 3: *(silently turn to 2 and watch)*

2: *(after a beat or two)* **What? I was just...ohhhh I missed it, didn't I?**

1: *(teasing)* **Missed what?**

2: *(turning to 3)* **The better part.**

3: The one thing....

1: ...which will not be taken away from her.

2: (*thinking. 1 and 3 turn to watch 2 work it out.*) Wait....are the better part and the one thing...the same thing?

1 & 3: (*Smile broadly at 2 and nod.*)

2: (*continuing on quickly*)....and the better part and the one thing - which are the same thing - is Jesus?

1 & 3: (*continuing to nod and smile as they face forward. Stop smiling and nodding when 2 continues.*)

2: OH! (*Excitedly/celebrating, then quickly “realizes”*) Ohhhh.....so what we are saying here is that a relationship with Jesus should take priority?

1 & 3 (*think, then affirm*)

2: (*with wide eyes*) Oh. (*pausing*) That’s a good and difficult lesson, isn’t it?

1 & 3. (*in knowing agreement*) Yes.