

# The Essence of Personal Discipleship

The Story of Mary, Martha and Jesus – Luke 10:38-42

**Main Idea:** The essence of personal discipleship is worship, then service, in the context of community.

## 1. **BEGINNING OBSERVATIONS – Three observations about this passage.**

- A. First observation – This is first and foremost a lesson about priorities in discipleship.
- B. Second observation – This is a lesson on the universality of discipleship.
- C. Third observation – This is a lesson on when and where discipleship takes place.

## 2. **THE MARY RESPONSE – Worship is our highest priority.**

- A. Mary is part of a three person household in the village of Bethany.
- B. When Mary appears in the gospels, she is always at the feet of Jesus. Luke 10:38; John 11:32; 12:1ff.
- C. Mary's worship on this occasion comes in three forms. Luke 10:38-42

## 3. **THE MARTHA RESPONSE – Service takes a close second place.**

- A. Whenever you see Martha appearing in the gospels she is very active and she is in control.
- B. In the story, Martha shows the three pitfalls of a "service-first" mindset. Luke 10:40
- C. Jesus challenges Martha to put service in its proper place.

## 4. **OUR RESPONSE – Where do you stand as a disciple?**

- A. The options: We can neglect both, or embrace what we can control, or
- B. Hold both in the right order.