

# SESSION ONE VIDEO

## Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World

*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.*

REVELATION 3:20, NKJV

### *The Story of Mary and Martha—the Story of You and Me, Luke 10:38-42*

The Living Room Intimacy WITH God that we long for will never be found in Kitchen Service FOR God.

### *Discovering the Better Part*

1. Martha opened her home (Luke 10:38).
  - preparations – *diakonia* - MINISTRY
2. Mary opened her heart (Luke 10:39).
  - She made ROOM for time with Jesus.
  - She did the UNEXPECTED.
  - She LISTENED to Jesus.

The same invitation Jesus made to Martha is the invitation He makes to us:

“Come spend time with Me...Allow My LIFE to fill your life so that I can spill you to the world!”

# SESSION TWO VIDEO

## Lord, Don't You Care?

*Quick! Bring the best robe.... Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.*

LUKE 15:22-24

### *Another Set of Siblings, Luke 15:11-32*

#### The Youngest Son

- “Father, give me my share” (verse 12).
- “He came to his SENSES” (verse 17).

#### The Father (verses 20-23)

- The father SAW him.
- The father RAN to him.
- The father restored him.

“Best robe” conveys DISTINCTION.

Signet “ring” suggests AUTHORITY.

“Sandals” indicate SONSHIP.

“Feast” signifies SPECIAL HONOR.

#### The Oldest Son

- “was in the field” (verse 25).
- “All these years I've been SLAVING for you” (verse 29).

### **Key Truths**

1. Proximity doesn't ensure relationship.
2. God's love for others in no way diminishes His love for us.
3. We all need to come to our senses; it's time to come HOME !

Our Father's heart: “Everything I have is YOURS” (Luke 15:31).

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# SESSION THREE VIDEO

## Freedom from Fear

*“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”*

2 TIMOTHY 1:7, NKJV

### *It All Started in the Garden, Genesis 2:7 - 3:24*

Two Trees:

- The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil
- The Tree of LIFE

The forbidden tree was a symbol of God’s right to set STANDARDS on our lives.

### *Progression of Temptation, Genesis 3:1-5*

1. Doubt God’s intentions (verse 1)
2. Doubt God’s trustworthiness (verse 4)
3. Doubt God’s motives (verse 5)

Adam and Eve stepped out from under God’s PROTECTION —and fear entered the world.

Mistake #1: Eve engaged in a prolonged conversation with talking snake.<sup>i</sup>

Mistake #2: Eve believed she KNEW better than God.

### *The Remedy, Genesis 3:13-24*

- God in His mercy CLOTHED them (verse 21).
- God in His mercy barred them from the Tree of Life (verse 24).
- In His mercy, Jesus hung on a TREE to give us eternal life (Galatians 3:13).

Which tree will you eat from?

# SESSION FOUR VIDEO

## Burden Bearer

*Give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you. He will not permit the godly to slip and fall.*

PSALM 55:22, NLT

### *Jesus Came to a Burdened World*

Religion had become a BURDEN that Jesus said was impossible to bear (Matthew 23:1-4).

- When it comes to sin, Jesus is our BURDEN- BEARER.
- When it comes to life, He wants to be our BURDEN- SHARER.

### *The Invitation, Matthew 11:28-30*

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

*Rest* means “inner tranquility while engaged in necessary LABOR.”<sup>ii</sup>

Two primary Greek words translated as “burden”:

- *baros* – “a burden or difficulty”
- *phortion* – “a RESPONSIBILITY”

“Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart.”

A yoke is a symbol of SUBMISSION.

“For my yoke is EASY and my burden is light.”

### *Our Helper, the Holy Spirit, John 4:16, 26*

*Parakletos* means “Helper”—the One “who is CALLED alongside.”

Your burden can be a GIFT (OT – *yehab*) (Psalm 55:22).

# SESSION FIVE VIDEO

## **Pursued by Love**

*I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord. They will be my people, and I will be their God.*

JEREMIAH 24:7

### ***Jesus, Our Way Maker***

We were made for a Garden, but sin destroyed all that. Yet God's love kept reaching...

- God's holiness required separation – the temple VEIL .
- But then Jesus came as the final sacrifice to RECONCILE us to God.
- The veil was “torn in two from top to bottom” (Matthew 27:51).

### ***Jesus, Our Example***

Jesus came to show us the way back to Garden-of-Eden intimacy with God. He modeled...

1. Solitude (Luke 5:16)
2. The Word (Joshua 1:8)
3. Prayer (Luke 11:1)
4. Dependence on GOD (John 5:19)

### ***Finding Our Way Back Home***

Because of Jesus, we are invited to enjoy full and complete fellowship with our Father (John 14:23; 17:23).

Our life is “ HIDDEN with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:3).

# SESSION SIX VIDEO

## Compelled by Love

*May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else.*

I THESSALONIANS 3:12

### *The Call to Radical Love, Matthew 22:37-40*

- Love GOD with all your heart, soul and mind.
- Love your neighbor as yourself.

While *love* is a noun, it is best lived out as a VERB (James 2:26).

Jesus' love in feeding the five thousand (Mark 6:30-44; John 6:1-13).

### *The Challenge of Practical Love*

Principle #1: True love always COSTS something.

Principle #2: Do what you can with what you HAVE.

Principle #3: When we give what we have, God makes it more than enough.

### *Developing a Kitchen Service Heart*

1. Be sensitive to the Spirit's leading.
2. Be willing to do what is NEEDED.
3. Cultivate a holy detachment to the RESULTS.
4. Be completely dependent.

“God [will] make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

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# SESSION SEVEN VIDEO

## Rewriting History

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

JEREMIAH 29:11

### *The Story Behind the Story*

Because we know Bible story endings, we tend to minimize the difficult “middles.”

### *Stories of Faith, Hebrews 11*

“Faith is being ...certain of what we do not SEE” (verse 1).

- Abraham
- Joseph
- Rahab

How did these people survive their stories?

- “All these people were still living by FAITH when they died” (verse 13).
- “They admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth” (verse 13).
- “They were longing for a BETTER country—a heavenly one” (verse 16).

### *What Will You Do with Your Story? John 11:1-44*

“Lord, the one you love is sick” (verse 3).

“Yet when [Jesus] heard...he stayed where he was two more days” (verse 6).

1. Run to meet Jesus (verse 20).
2. Surrender the quill of your WILL (verses 21-22).
3. BELIEVE that He is the resurrection and the life (verses 25-26, 40).
4. Let God rewrite your story (Isaiah 46:10).

# SESSION EIGHT VIDEO

## The Beauty of Repentance

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

1 JOHN 1:9

### *A Woman Transformed*

Martha was willing to receive rebuke from Jesus (Luke 10:38-42; John 11).

She was willing to grow and CHANGE.

What will we do with the rebuke of the Lord when it comes to us?

Will we resist it? resent it? or RECEIVE it?

### *What Kind of Sorrow Do You Have?*

True repentance involves the right kind of sorrow (2 Corinthians 7:10).

#### **WORLDLY SORROW**

Regret

Guilt remains

“I’m sorry, BUT...”

REPEAT mistakes

Bondage

#### **GODLY SORROW**

Repent and turn from sin

Guilt is gone

“I’m sorry, I was WRONG”

LEARN from mistakes

Freedom

### *The Beauty of Repentance, Acts 3:19*

When the Holy Spirit convicts you of sin:

1. REPENT of sin.
2. RENOUNCE what you’ve embraced.
3. RECEIVE forgiveness.
4. RECONCILE with God and others.

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# SESSION NINE VIDEO

## Loving God Extravagantly

*I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told.*

MARK 14:9

### ***At Home in Bethany, John 12:1-3***

Over and over in the New Testament, we read that Jesus returned to Bethany.

- Lazarus LIVED.
- Martha SERVED.
- Mary LOVED.

Scriptural overview of two anointings:

1. End of Jesus' ministry, by Mary in John 12; unnamed in Matthew 26:6-13 and Mark 14:3-9
2. Beginning of Jesus' ministry, by a sinful woman in Luke 7:36-50

### ***Giving a Gift Worthy of the Savior, John 12:3-8***

Mary the worshipper became Mary the servant as she gave what she had:

1. The GIFT was an extravagant sacrifice.
2. The ACT took extravagant boldness.
3. The LOVE was extravagant abandonment.

### ***The Beautiful Result***

“The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume” (verse 3).

“Leave her alone...It was intended that she should SAVE this perfume” (verse 7).

### ***Our Response***

Philippians 2:17—“poured”—*spendo*

Don't CLING to your life; pour it out.

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# SESSION TEN VIDEO

## Lord of the Process

*To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy.*

JUDE 1:24

### *To Be Like Jesus*

It takes a process to make a product, in life and in our Christian walk.

- Justification is being made right WITH God.
- Sanctification is being made holy LIKE God.

The process is divine, but we must cooperate with GRACE (Philippians 2:12-13).

Obedience + Repentance = CHRIST - likeness

### *A Slow and Steady Transformation*

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the SAME image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 3:18, NKJV).

1. Take off the VEIL; be honest with yourself and God.
2. Spend time in His Word (Romans 12:2).
3. Keep your eyes on JESUS (Hebrews 12:2).
4. Don't resent difficult pressures or the anvil of trials (James 1:2-4).
5. Let God REMOVE anything that distorts His image in you.

“They look to Him and were radiant” (Psalm 34:5, NKJV).

# BONUS SESSION VIDEO

## Developing a Quiet Time

*“Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.”*

PSALM 62:8

### *The Blessing of Solitude*

When Jesus told Martha, “Mary has chosen what is better” (Luke 10:42), He was inviting her to an intimate relationship with God.

“Only one thing is needed” (verse 42).

### *Roundtable Discussion*

### *Journaling Your Way to Intimacy, James 1:22-25*

Journaling helps you...

- to get quiet and HONEST with God.
- capture and RECORD what God is saying.
- track and record your spiritual PROGRESS.

Start SMALL, but begin...

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<sup>i</sup> SESSION 3: From a conversation with Alicia Britt Chole.

<sup>ii</sup> SESSION 4: Spiros Zodhiates, gen. ed., *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*, rev. ed. (Chattanooga, TN: AMG International, 1993), s.v. “anapausis” (Strong’s #372).