**Sitting at the Feet of Jesus**

**The Word**

Read together Luke 10:38-42

**The Big Idea**

Jesus desires the kind of hospitality from us in which we take him in and make room in our hearts and minds for his words. In an increasingly complex culture, there is a “simple” and single-minded devotion to Jesus that he invites us to pursue.

**Questions for Discussion**

1. Sunday’s story of Martha and Mary was framed in terms of hospitality. Share a time when you experienced a true and significant hospitality from someone. What was that experience like for you?

2. The story of Martha and Mary is one that is familiar to many of us. What from Sunday’s message helped you understand or appreciate that story in a fresh way?

3. Consider Jesus’ words to Martha: “Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things.” How much do those words resonate with you at this time in your life? Be as specific as possible

4. What would it look like for you to “sit at Jesus’ feet” and take him in at this time in your life? What is something you plan to do in order to offer Jesus the kind of hospitality he is seeking?

**Digging Deeper: Sermon Outline**

I. Consider this story in terms of hospitality

A. What kind of hospitality do these two women offer to Jesus?

B. What kind of hospitality is Jesus seeking from us?

 C. Hospitality is all about making room for another

1. Physical hospitality: we make physical space for another

2. Relational hospitality: we make room in our hearts, minds, attention for another

II. Martha

A. “Distracted by much serving” (v. 40)

1. In the name of a certain kind of hospitality, she’s distracted and missing out on the guest himself

2. It’s easy to get busy doing ministry and things for Jesus and actually remain disconnected from Jesus

B. “Lord, don’t you care . . . tell my sister to help me” (v. 40)

1. She is questioning Jesus’ heart and ordering him around.

2. Her kind of hospitality has not made room for Jesus, so she is not being transformed by him and recognizing his grace and authority.

3. This can happen to us. When we don’t create space in our hearts and minds for Jesus, we are not transformed. As a result, we often question his care and love for us and we order him around and try to bring him into our agendas rather than surrendering to his agenda.

C. “Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things” (v. 41)

1. Jesus sees beyond the activity to the heart and to what is driving Martha.

 2. We can relate to being worried and upset about many things.

III. Mary

A. “Mary was sitting at the feet of the Lord, listening to his words” (v. 39)

1. She is offering Jesus the deepest kind of hospitality: Reverence, receptivity, attention, devotion

2. She is assuming the role of a disciple, and Jesus is embracing her as a disciple (which would have been countercultural for women at that time).

3. She knows the obligation to help her sister, but she is simply enthralled and captivated by Jesus

B. The contrast between her and Martha

 1. anxious vs. peaceful

 2. many things vs. one thing

IV. Jesus

 A. Jesus offered that same kind of single-minded hospitality to his heavenly father

B. It was in his relationship with his father that he found his identity, refreshment, and direction for ministry

 C. In all the busyness of ministry, his life was truly about one thing: his Father.

V. Conclusion

 A. What kind of hospitality are you offering to Jesus these days?

B. We’re offering our hospitality to things every day. The issue isn’t whether or not we’ll be hospitable, but simply what will we be hospitable towards?

C. Practically, consider your mornings and evenings as good opportunities to sit at Jesus’ feet and take in his presence and his words.