

## Have yourself a very

### Mary Christmas

**Luke 10:38–42 (TNIV)** — **38** As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. **39** She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. **40** But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" **41** "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, **42** but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

**What are you most tempted to worry about?**

**What things / circumstances upset you?**

**How would sitting "at the Lord's feet and listening" impact your worries and the impact of the circumstances that are upsetting you?**

**John 11:1–3 (TNIV)** — **1** Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. **2** (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) **3** So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

**John 12:1–6 (TNIV)** — **1** Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. **2** Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. **3** Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. **4** But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, **5** "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." **6** He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

**Discussion Igniters: Application Questions**

**How does Mary's extravagant affectionate gift of gratitude impact your relationship with Jesus?**

**How does Judas' response to Mary's gift impact you?**

**How can you be more like Mary and less like Judas: this week? this month? this coming year?**