

Women of the Bible:

Mary & Martha (sisters of Lazarus)

First: Start with the facts from each passage:

Second: What would her life have been like at this time

Third: What traits do we discover about her

Fourth: How did God work through this person, even after their mistake(s)

Fifth: What inspiration or lessons can be learned?

Luke 10:38-42

John 11:1-45

John 12:1-3

Lessons for Our Lives:

DID YOU NOTICE:

Mary—means: bitter (from same root as Mara—see Naomi).

Additional meanings (up to 70) also include: Beloved.

Martha- means: lady

Simon—means: hearing

Luke 10:38-42 Martha is the oldest of the 3 siblings and it is her home. They appear to be wealthy and are well known in Bethany.

Martha is the one who invites and does all the work. Mary is the one commended.

John 11:1-45 Martha is the one to go out and greet Jesus. Martha and Mary blamed Jesus for Lazarus' death. Many people today blame Him for sickness, death, and other tragedies they face.

Martha's statement of faith is more extensive than Mary's greeting. Jesus explains to Martha that Lazarus will live again. Martha is slow to understand and hesitates at having the tomb opened.

John 12:1-8 Martha is again the one serving the meal. Mary takes perfume and washes Jesus feet with expensive perfume and wipes them with her hair. Jesus commends her for her service.

Matthew 26:6-13 (Mark 14:1-9) It is suggested that Martha was married to Simon the Leper. This is a different Simon than the Pharisee in Luke 7:26-50 where another foot washing by a woman, took place. It is thought that Simon had died and Martha now owned the house. Matthew is the only writer to mention him by name .

Matthew 27:55 Many suggest that Martha and Mary were among the women at the crucifixion.

Acts 1:14 Might have been among the "women"

2 John 2—Some suggest dear "lady" was Martha. Others say it simply a general term.