



Come To The Table *Day 3: Chorus*

He said come to the table
Come join the sinners who have been redeemed
Take your place beside the Savior
Sit down and be set free
Come to the table

Scripture Reference

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. 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!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

– *Luke 10: 38-42*



Today's scripture, although lengthy, is packed with so many amazing truths for us even today. We begin with Martha opening her home to Jesus and busily preparing a feast to be served at her table. The invitation alone signaled her desire to connect with Jesus, grow in relationship with Him.

Do you open your life to Jesus? Do you invite the Holy Spirit to be an active participant in your thoughts, your actions, and your choices? How can you open your home, your heart, and your life today to grow in relationship with Jesus? As we'll see here soon, the point is not to be elaborate in your preparations, but instead to open yourself to Him and prioritize your relationship with Him.

Before we switch our focus to Mary, look at how Martha got upset with Jesus over Mary's "laziness". She practically chides Him, exclaiming "Tell her to help me!" Phew, seems like a bit of a tantrum. Jesus so patiently responds by addressing the "worry and upset" feelings she is letting control her. In the original Greek, these words equate to anxiety, distracted, troubled. Not exactly words we would like Jesus to say about us, right?

Aren't we all a bit guilty of throwing a tantrum to our Heavenly Father when we feel overwhelmed or under-helped? Do you think your reactions and your life may display anxiety, distractions, or trouble? How can you instead display your freedom and your redemption in Christ? What "table" do you need to sit at to better recognize that you've been set free? If you're in that place right now, cry out to your Heavenly Father for some peace and rest at His table.



Jesus tells us that Mary chose better and it would not be taken away from her. If we step back and understand the context of that time, a primary role for a woman was in preparing the home and the food. In addition, women were not permitted to worship in the same manner as men. Mary defied both of these things. Not only did she ignore her responsibilities to assist in preparation, she chose instead to sit at Jesus's feet and to learn from Him. Jesus specifically tells us this is the **better** choice. Does that mean Mary chose badly? No – she just didn't choose the **better** choice.

In what areas are you choosing a good thing, instead of the better thing? Do you recognize that, in saying "yes" to the good, you've said "no" to the better? Take a moment today to list some good choices that you may need to say "no" to in order to say "yes" to even better. Recognize that may mean defying societal norms, but that's ok! Jesus is interested in growing us in the "better".

What is the better choice? In this passage, to sit at Jesus' feet and learn from Him. The point of the encounter was not in elaborate meal preparations but, instead, in coming to know Jesus better. Our song puts it as taking a place by our Savior, to sit down and be set free. In growing our relationship with Jesus, we are freed. Freed from our bondages, freed from our worries, freed from our sins. Jesus invites us to come to the table...to be set free. It's an invitation, though, not a command. Just like Mary and Martha, we must make the choice to accept...to **stop and rest** in his presence.

Are you accepting Jesus' invitation today? How are you making space in your life to sit at Jesus' feet so that you can learn from Him and grow in relationship with Him? End today praying to your Savior. Thank Him for redeeming you. Spend time with Him in prayer. Feel the freedom only He can provide.
