

## **HAVE A MARY CHRISTMAS**

By Paralee Eadie

Mary sat at Jesus' feet.  
Martha was distracted.  
Both in Jesus' presence,  
How differently they reacted.

Martha saw the needs that day.  
There was so much to be done.  
How hard she worked, how fast she went,  
Just run, run, run, run, run!

"Where is my sister, Mary?"  
"She should be helping me."  
There she sits at Jesus' feet  
As peaceful as can be.

Martha went to Jesus  
And said, "This is unfair."  
"Make Mary come and help me  
Instead of sitting there."

How surprised she must have been  
When her request wasn't heeded,  
Instead Jesus reminded her  
Only one thing was needed.

Are you overwhelmed with duty?  
Do you complain and fuss and fume?  
Are you spending time with Jesus?  
Or is He in the other room?

Make your sink an altar.  
Bake cookies while you pray.  
Sing praises as you dust the house.  
Sit at Jesus' feet today.

Luke 10:38-42

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 Mary 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 only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”

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Do you have a hard time balancing duty and devotion?

How do you get everything done and  
still find time to keep Christ in Christmas?

Here’s a great quote from a book  
that was the inspiration for this poem,  
“Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World”  
by Joanna Weaver.

“Instead of trying in my own strength to mesh Living Room Intimacy with Kitchen service, I started focusing on Christ alone. Instead of fretting about what was and was not getting done, I began to surrender my days to the Lord, asking Him to direct my paths. “You know what needs to be done today, Lord. Show me the ‘one thing’ and I’ll do it.” With the surrender came a newfound peace. I was able to leave the tunnel vision of all-or-nothing thinking and just enjoy each day.” (page 203)

As the book shares, Martha’s fault was not that she served, but that her service weighed her down so much that she forgot Jesus and remembered only the service.