

## **Martha and Mary - Jesus says the person who listens to God is better than the person who does good for others**

Luke 10:38-42

New International Version

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."

Is Jesus saying Mary is better to take things easy instead of upsetting and worrying herself?

He says only one thing is needed. He says Martha does not need to be doing the good things she is doing. The text does not say what the one thing needed is. But the context would show that the one thing that is needed is to listen to God in the form of God's prophet.

Jesus is clearly saying that the good you do is unimportant. What matters is being religious. He even goes as far as to refuse to encourage Mary to help. A little help would have done no harm.

He was a nut.