

Ev Preschool Kids: Martha got it wrong! (Luke 10:38-42)



Main Point: Listening to Jesus is always the best thing to do.

Play Activities

As they play with the following equipment, talk to the children about all the work that needs to be done around the house - the washing and cooking and cleaning. And how busy people can be doing all this work. Today we're going to hear about a woman who was so busy doing all this work she forgot to do the most important thing.

- Doll's house - provide a doll's house complete with figurines and furniture for the children to arrange and play with.
- Kitchen - provide a play kitchen complete with plastic tea set and plastic food as well as washing up equipment for the children to set the table, eat the food, then wash up.
- Washing line - provide washing line, pegs and tubs to pretend to wash and hang clothes.
- Gardening - provide wheelbarrows, gardening gloves, spades, fake flowers... for children to be busy in the garden.
- Chef dress ups - provide a cooking bench, chef's outfits, plastic food, plastic cooking utensils and a toy oven for the children to cook food.
- Water tray - provide a water tray and lots of things for the children to pretend to wash up. **Warning: never leave water tray unattended.**

Conclusion:

- *There's lots to do around the house - cooking, cleaning, washing... (point to some of the cards).*
- *Today we're going to hear about a woman who was so busy doing all these things.*
- *But Jesus said that the other woman who sat and listened to him did the very best thing of all.*

Song

Songs are on the website page with links for you to sing along to with your kids. Click for the ([Ev Preschool Kids Playlist](#))

Story Time

Can you help me tell this story?

Every time you hear me say: Where was Mary?

*I want you to say: **Listening to Jesus.***

(note: other leaders must help children by calling this out)

Let's practise.

Now to our story...

One day Jesus and his followers came to visit two sisters, Mary and Martha.

Jesus came inside their house and sat down.

Mary sat down beside Jesus.

Mary wanted to listen to everything that Jesus said.

But Martha was too busy to stop and listen.

There was a lot to be done.

First Martha made drinks for everyone.

There were lots of drinks to be poured.

Martha looked around.

Where was Mary?

Listening to Jesus.

There were a lot of cups to wash up.

When everyone had finished drinking, Martha collected all the cups and washed them up.

Martha looked around.

Where was Mary?

Listening to Jesus.

Then Martha set to work.

Martha made bread.

Martha cooked the meat.

Martha chopped the vegetables.

Martha boiled the water.

Martha looked around.

Where was Mary?

Listening to Jesus.

Martha looked at Jesus and said, "Jesus, don't you care that Mary has left me to do all the work? Tell her to help me!"

But Jesus looked at Martha and said, "Martha, Martha, you worry about many things. Mary is doing the better thing. Mary is listening to me."

Martha looked around.

Where was Mary?

Listening to Jesus.

Conclusion:

Children, we can be busy, just like Martha.

Busy doing good things.

But there's one thing we must never be too busy for.

Listening to Jesus.

Children, the best thing to do is to listen to what Jesus says.

Discussion Group

- *Why was Martha so upset?*
(she was doing all the work by herself, her sister wasn't doing a thing as far as she could tell)

- *What was Mary doing?*
(listening to Jesus)

- *What did Martha want Jesus to do?*
(make her sister come and help her with the work)

- *Who was doing the best thing?*
(Mary, she was listening to Jesus)

Conclusion:

- *Children, Martha was busy doing good things.*
- *But she wasn't doing the best thing.*
- *Mary was doing the best thing.*
- *She was listening to Jesus.*
- *Children, the best thing to do is to listen to what Jesus says.*

Pray together in response

Repeated Prayer

Father God, – thank you that – our teachers at Children’s Church – teach us what Jesus says. – Please help us – to listen and do – what Jesus says. – Amen

Individual Prayer

Encourage children to pray that they will listen to Jesus and learn from him.

Memory Verse

Acts 16:31. There is an audio on the website page for you to download and practice with your kids.