

Session 3: Priorities

SESSION GOALS

Every session has a point—what each participant should walk away from the discussion knowing, feeling, and doing.

Main Idea: Knowing God should be our priority more than all the good works we do to serve him.

Head Change: To know that our first priority is our relationship with God more than our acts of service for him.

Heart Change: To feel peace about prioritizing God above everything else in our lives.

Life Change: To remind ourselves that, while serving the Lord is a high calling, he ultimately desires our worship and company.

Each session in *Table Talks* corresponds to a video segment featuring a recipe. Feel free to watch the video as a group, make the recipe together, and use the icebreaker question below to spark conversation while you eat.

OPEN

Imagine you are asked to host an elaborate dinner party. Would you be excited about it or filled with dread? Why? What would be your priority in preparing for the party?

[illegible]

Everyone thinks of hosting differently, and it's not everyone's cup of tea. Even among the naturally gifted hosts, no two are alike. Some love to make intricate meals, others prefer to have a spotless home, while others focus on the guest list.

In this session, Bianca will introduce us to Mary and Martha, two sisters with vastly different approaches to having Jesus in their home. Jesus's response to their dispute gives us a glimpse into how we should prioritize our time and efforts.

VIEW

Before viewing the session, here are a few important things to look for in Bianca Juárez Olthoff's teaching. As you watch, pay attention to the following questions.

How did Jesus respond to Martha's complaint about Mary?

What was the point of the gathering in the sisters' home?

Why was Mary's the better choice?

Show Session Three: *Priorities* (9 minutes).

REVIEW

Hosting a gathering can be both a delight and stress for those responsible. Bianca told a story of when she allowed the pressure of perfection to override her enjoyment of the event. She had lost sight of her purpose for hosting. **In what ways can you relate to her situation?**

Bianca told a story from Luke that shows what can happen when we misplace our priorities. Read Luke 10:38–42.

[illegible]

professional. Also consider talking to a trusted Christian friend or pastor about your struggles—you are not alone.

LAST WORD

Jesus wants us to focus on him more than any other distraction. He commands us to seek him and his kingdom first. He can handle our worries, our needs, our desires. This week, take some time to consider your priorities. Are you more preoccupied with the worries in your life? What do you value most? What could seeking after God and his kingdom look like in your life?

As we encounter opportunities to serve Jesus,
let's keep the main thing the main thing.

DEEPER WALK

Reflect: Spend time in the Gospels exploring Jesus's interactions with Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38–42; John 11; 12:1–7). Martha is usually written off as a workaholic, but her response to Jesus in John 11 gives us insight into her character. What can you learn from her?

Prepare: Using the recipe from Bianca in this session, keep your preparations simple for your next gathering. Instead of planning a complicated spread, be intentional at setting up so that you are freed up to enjoy your guests' company more.

Memorize: Spend time repeating, writing, and committing to memory Jesus's statement in Matthew 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Pray: Ask God to help you prioritize what is truly meaningful as you find opportunities to serve him.

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