

Luke 10:38-42 Martha, Mary and Jesus

First—Play a game in which we all sit still for as long as we can—not like statues but sitting still without wiggling or getting up or anything. See who moves first (and honestly it could be the teacher. Adults have trouble with this, too.)

After a few minutes, stop the game and point out who (if anyone) was able to sit still the entire time without scratching their foot, wiggling their toes, trying to talk without moving their lips, etc.

Tell the kids that adults tend to tell kids to sit still, pay attention and things like that. Kids have lots of energy and we attribute the wiggles to that. However, adults have simply channeled the wiggles into busy-ness. We are SO busy accomplishing SO much.

Read the story in Luke 10:38-42

After reading the story, have the kids identify the people in the story and write the names on the board.

Jesus
Disciples
Martha
Mary

Next, have them tell what each one did and pick someone to choose how to draw it next to the name on the board. So:

Jesus and the disciples walked into a village (draw feet or people walking)

Martha welcomes Jesus into her home (draw house, Martha with arms out, etc.)

Mary sits at Jesus' feet (draw Mary and Jesus)

Martha is frustrated because she has to do the serving and asks Jesus to tell Mary to help her (draw frustrated Martha, or Martha with kitchen utensils, etc.)

Jesus tells Martha she is worried, (or distracted or careful) about many things but Mary has chosen the one needful thing and it won't be taken away from her. (Could be drawn many ways—I let the kids choose)

Read the definition of the word that describes how Martha was. Strong's #4049. Part of the definition says "to be over-occupied, too busy, about a thing. Jesus did not tell Martha to quit what she was doing and come sit down next to Mary. Jesus told Martha that she was over-occupied with what she was doing. She was placing more importance upon it than it warranted. Ask the kids if they have ever gotten so caught up in what they were doing that they were unaware of more important things going on around them. Listen to their answers.

Next re-enact the play using costumes (if you have them). Read the story and let them simply act out their parts.

Sit down and ask the kids to think about the story and based upon it guess what my prayer for us will be.

Pray that we not be distracted by many things and incorporate any prayers the kids might have as well.