

Chasing Margin

Choosing What Matters Most (Week 1)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

Margin is found first at the feet of Jesus.

Key Scriptures

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:2 NLT

Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. And she had a sister called Mary, who was also seated at the Lord's feet, and was listening to His word. But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do the serving by myself? Then tell her to help me. But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things: but only one thing is necessary; for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her. Luke 10:38-42 NASB

One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple. Psalms 27:4 NASB

Margin is not found in doing it all, but in giving your all to what you are first called to.

Margin is found when we:

- Start each day in His presence.
 - Praise Him for who He is.
 - Thank Him for what He has done.
 - Invite Him into your day.
- Spend our days meditating on His word.

Start talking.

- How would you define margin?
- Why is margin important?
- Joel said, "The world says margin is found once we can do it all and get it all done." Agree or disagree? What are the negatives to viewing margin this way?

Start thinking.

- Read Romans 12:2. What are the "behaviors and customs of this world" as it relates to margin, rest, and peace?
- Read Luke 10:38-42. What do we learn about Martha and Mary? What is true of them both? How do they differ?
- What was the "one thing" Mary chose?

Start sharing.

- What worries and distractions keep you from experiencing margin?
- Read Psalm 27:4. To dwell is literally to "sit quietly". Where can you sit quietly in your life? Why is that the one thing the psalmist asks for?

Start doing.

- Commit the next week to start each day in His presence by praising Him for who He is, thanking Him for what He has done, and inviting him into each of your days.
- Choose a passage of scripture—Psalm 23 for example—to read and meditate on each day this week.

Closing prayer.

Jesus, I praise you for you are King of Kings, and LORD of lords. You are the lover of my soul, my Savior, and my all in all. Help me to stand against the lies and patterns of this world that screams at me to always get more done, to do more. Help me to experience margin, rest, and peace in your presence and as I meditate on your words.